



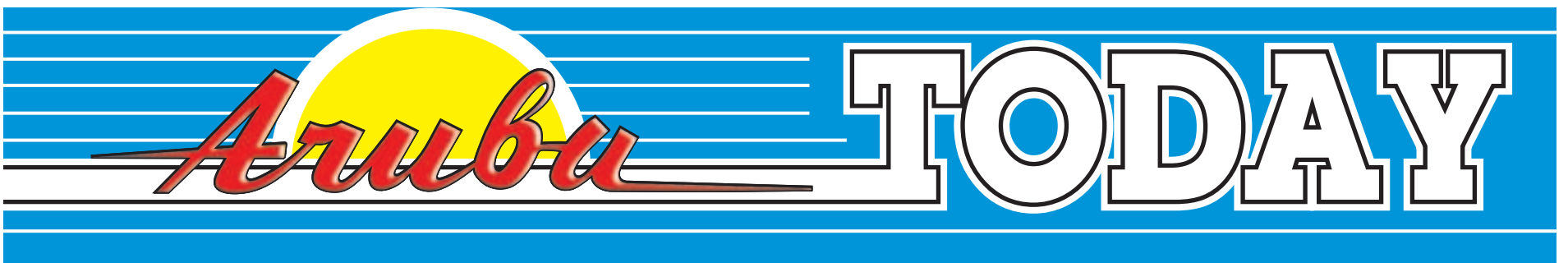
## MAYOR DE BLASIO IS CELEBRATED IN ANCESTRAL TOWN

Page 8



## CUP IS OVER, BUT SOME ARGENTINES WON'T GO HOME

Page 11



On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Saturday, July 26, 2014

# Humanitarian Pause



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry talks to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about terms of a cease-fire in fighting in Gaza between Israel and Hamas, Friday, July 25, 2014, from his hotel suite in Cairo, Egypt.

(AP Photo/Pool)

## Kerry Says No Deal Yet For 7-Day Truce in Gaza

**KARIN LAUB  
IAN DEITCH  
Associated Press**

JERUSALEM (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Friday that more work was needed to reach a deal between Israel and Hamas for a seven-day truce in the Gaza war. Israel's defense minister warned that the mili-

tary may soon broaden its ground operation "significantly."

The tough statement by Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon, coupled with Kerry's inability to broker even a temporary cease-fire after a week of shuttling around the region, signaled the fighting is likely to drag on, with more than

820 Palestinians and 38 people in Israel killed so far. Britain's U.N. ambassador says there may be "an extremely short" humanitarian pause in the conflict in Gaza between Israel and Hamas on Saturday lasting several hours.

Mark Lyall Grant told reporters Friday that Britain is very disappointed at the

failure to reach agreement on a sustainable cease-fire but perhaps a humanitarian pause "will open up a little bit of space to work on a more sustainable cease-fire."

U.S. officials later said Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu had agreed to a 12-hour cease-fire in principle, but did not say if it came with

a starting time. A Hamas spokesman, Sami Abu Zuhri, said the group agreed to a 12-hour lull, starting at 8 a.m. local time Saturday. Lyall Grant said key foreign ministers will be meeting in Paris on Saturday "to decide precisely on the next steps."

Continued on page 2



## At Press Time: Kerry says no deal yet for 7-day truce in Gaza

Continued from Front

In a statement issued shortly after Kerry spoke at a press conference in Cairo, Yaalon's office quoted him telling troops in the field that "you need to be ready for the possibility that very soon we will instruct the military to significantly broaden the ground operation in Gaza."

" Hamas is paying a very heavy price and will pay an even heavier price,"

talking to officials from Qatar, which is in contact with Hamas. But the most Kerry seemed to have won so far was a willingness from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to consider a far less ambitious 12-hour halt in fighting, proposed by U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon. Netanyahu, Kerry said, "has indicated his willingness to do that as a good faith down payment to move forward."

Still, Kerry said that the parties are closer than ever to an agreement for a seven-

militants in the tiny Mediterranean strip fired 50 rockets at Israel, the army said. Among the sites hit in Gaza were 30 homes, including that of a leader of the Islamic Jihad group who was killed along with his sons, Palestinian officials said.

And unrest sparked by the conflict intensified in the West Bank, where five Palestinians were killed during protests against the Israeli operation in Gaza.

The U.S. top diplomat said the goal of halting fighting for seven days was to



**U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry stands with Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shukri during a press conference at a hotel in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, July 25, 2014. Kerry said he has not yet reached a deal between Israel and Hamas to call a 7-day humanitarian truce in the Gaza war but is continuing work.**

(AP Photo/Pool)

Yaalon said. "At the end of the operation, Hamas will have to think very hard if it is worth it to taunt us in the future."

Israel has said a key objective of its ground operation is to destroy Hamas military tunnels under the Gaza-Israel border — and Israeli media have said the military wants more time to complete the mission.

Of 31 discovered so far, about half have been destroyed. The tunnels, used by Hamas in the past to sneak into Israel, are seen as a strategic threat against Israel.

For days, Kerry has been moving between the Egyptian capital, the West Bank and Jerusalem and

day "humanitarian" truce to start with the Muslim Eid holiday on Monday, ending the holy month of Ramadan.

Speaking alongside the U.N. secretary-general and the Egyptian foreign minister, Kerry insisted that there was a general agreement on the "concept" of a truce but that both sides had concerns over details of carrying it out.

"Gaps have been significantly narrowed," he said. "It can be achieved, if we work through some of the issues that are important for the parties."

Gaza fighting continued alongside the truce efforts. Israeli airstrikes hit more than 80 sites in Gaza, while

provide time to work out further talks to address each side's demands. He said some "terminology" on a truce's framework still needed work.

Hamas demands the release of Palestinian prisoners in addition to an end to the 7-year-old border blockade imposed by Israel and Egypt after the group seized Gaza from the Western-backed government of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Israeli TV reports said Israel's Security Cabinet unanimously rejected Kerry's proposal in its current form, mainly because it would mean Israel has to cut short the effort to destroy tunnels. □

## Afghan Taliban leader warns against security pact with US

AMIR SHAH

Associated Press

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)** — In a blow to hopes for peace talks, the Taliban's reclusive leader warned Friday that a bilateral security pact allowing thousands of U.S. troops to stay in Afghanistan beyond the end of this year will mean more fighting.

The Americans and NATO allies are winding down combat operations but want to leave a residual force to help train Afghan security forces and conduct counterterrorism operations amid fears government troops are ill-prepared to face a relentless insurgency and the security vacuum could pave the way for an al-Qaida resurgence in the country.

President Barack Obama has announced he wants to leave nearly 10,000 Americans in Afghanistan for two more years. The Afghan government has agreed in principle to a security agreement that would allow them to stay but the deal has yet to be signed. Both candidates vying to replace outgoing President Hamid Karzai have promised to sign it, but they are locked in a dispute over election results. Mullah Mohammad Omar called on the candidates not to sign the agreement.

"We believe the war in Afghanistan will come to an end when all foreign invaders pull out of Afghanistan and a holy Islamic and independent regime prevails here. Presence of limited number of troops under whatever title it may be will mean continuation of occupation and the war," he said in a message issued ahead of the Eid al-Fitr holiday that marks the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. The message was translated into Dari, Arabic, English and Pashto.

Violence continued Friday. Taliban insurgents halted minibuses in the western province of Ghor, identified 14 Shiite Hazara passengers, including three women, bound their hands, then shot them dead by the side of the road, an official said.

The buses were traveling from Kabul and carrying around 30 passengers, many who had gone to the capital to shop ahead of the holiday weekend, said the provincial governor, Sayed Anwar Rahmati. The dead included a couple who were engaged and two relatives travelling with them, Rahmati said, adding the other passengers were released.

The Taliban, like other Sunni extremist groups, view the country's minority Shiite community as apostates, and have targeted Hazaras in the past with suicide bombings and other attacks.

Mullah Omar's comments come as international forces already have largely moved to the background and let Afghan forces take the lead in the fighting, making it harder for the Taliban to argue that they are waging war against a foreign occupying force. Deadly attacks targeting Afghan policemen, soldiers and civilians have increased.

The Taliban's one-eyed chief reiterated his support for assaults on government officials and troops who are cooperating with the U.S.-led coalition, but he called on followers to take measures to prevent civilian casualties and to be friendly toward ordinary people "to win their hearts and minds."

He did not mention the peace process, which is virtually on hold anyway until the new president is chosen. The two candidates — former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah and former Finance Minister Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai — are awaiting the results of an audit of all ballots cast after allegations of massive fraud in the June 14 runoff vote. □



On immigration surge:

# Obama urges Latin leaders, Republicans to help



El Salvador's President Salvador Sanchez Ceren, left, Guatemala's President Otto Perez Molina, U.S. President Barack Obama, and Honduran President Juan Hernandez, listen to Spanish translation of Obama's remarks to the media after they met to discuss Central American immigration and the border crisis in the Cabinet Room of the White House Friday, July 25, 2014, in Washington. (AP Photo)

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama on Friday urged Central American presidents and congressional Republicans to help ease the influx of minors and migrant families crossing the southwest border of the U.S.

He emphasized to the regional leaders that despite U.S. compassion for migrant children, those who do not have a proper claim to remain in the U.S. will be turned back. While citing progress in stemming the flow, Obama called on House Republicans to act urgently on his request for emergency spending. With one week left before Congress' August recess, Republicans on Friday were trying to unite behind a plan that would spend about one-fourth of the amount in Obama's proposal.

"It is my hope that Speaker Boehner and House Republicans will not leave town for the month of August for their vacations without doing something to help solve this problem," Obama said after meeting with Vice President Joe Biden and the presidents of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. "We need action and less talk."

Obama played down a proposed pilot program that his administration is

considering that would give refugee status to young people from Honduras. White House officials said the plan, which could be expanded to Guatemala and El Salvador, would involve screening youths in their home countries to determine whether they qualify for refugee status.

Obama said such an effort would affect only a small number of asylum seekers. "There may be some narrow circumstances in which there is humanitarian or refugee status that a family might be eligible for," he said. If that were the case it would be better for them to apply in-country rather than take a very dangerous journey up to Texas to make those same claims. But I think it's important to recognize that that would not necessarily accommodate a large number of additional migrants."

Guatemalan President Otto Perez Molina said Obama urged the region to work with the U.S. to resolve the immediate crisis and also that it develop a medium- and long-term plan to prevent such a flight of migrants in the future.

"What he asked was that we be prepared to receive the children who are not classified to remain here," Molina said. "Ultimately we

have a responsibility in our countries to be prepared to receive them and give them the attention and the processes they deserve."

Obama's demand for congressional action came as GOP lawmakers said they were attempting to coalesce behind a narrow package of changes including sending National Guard troops to the border, increasing the number of U.S. immigration judges and changing a law so that migrant youths arriving by the tens of thousands could be sent home more quickly. The package would cost less than \$1 billion, several lawmakers said, far less than the \$3.7

billion Obama requested to deal with the crisis.

A number of Republicans exiting a special meeting on the issue in the Capitol said they had to act before leaving Washington late next week for their annual August recess.

"It would be a terrible message; leave town in August without having done anything, knowing that it's going to create even more of a crisis on the border," said Rep. Charlie Dent.

Democrats called on Republicans to act on the spending bill without contentious policy changes attached that would cost Democratic votes and imperil Senate support. □

*Fresh*  
Saturday Deals

LING & SONS  
IGA  
Super Center

*Groceries Like Home!*

**50% off**

Cherry Red  
per 100 gr

From 3.99 to  
**1.99**  
avg

**25% off**

Watermelon  
Seedless  
per piece

From 12.99 to  
**9.99**  
avg

**40% off**

Avocado  
Green Skin  
per piece

From 4.75 to  
**2.99**  
avg

**20% off**

Blueberries  
per pack 2 Lbs

From 15.99 to  
**12.99**  
avg

**15% off**

Cantaloupe  
Heirloom  
per piece

From 7.95 to  
**6.99**  
avg

Don't forget sign up  
for your VIP card

Wi-Fi

**THE #1  
SUPERMARKET  
IN ARUBA**


www.lingandsons.com

lingandsons

lingandsons


- Offer valid Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
or while supplies last.  
All prices are in Aruban florins -





An Experience to Return For...  
Eat | Drink | Dance  
*Celebrate!*

Paseo Herencia Mall | J.E. Irausquin Blvd 365A  
Palm Beach, ARUBA  
For table reservations please call:  
**585 4161**





## Courting black support; Rand Paul backs changes in voting rights and criminal justice

**JEREMY W. PETERS**

© 2014 New York Times

**CINCINNATI** - Sen. Rand Paul on Friday declared his support for a wide range of criminal justice and voting rights reforms in his latest effort to help improve his and the Republican Party's reputation with black voters. Paul's appearance at a conference of the Urban League capped a month in which the junior senator from Kentucky - a top contender for the party's presidential nomination in 2016 - has been aggressively courting black and Democratic backing for his ideas. "Anyone who thinks that race does not still, even if inadvertently, skew the ap-

plication of criminal justice, he's just not paying close attention," Paul said to applause.

He spoke indignantly of a Kentucky man imprisoned for 55 years for a marijuana offense.

"You can kill someone in Kentucky and get out sooner," he said. He quoted Malcolm X: "Nobody can give you equality or justice. If you're a man, you take it."

Paul sounded empathetic as he described the arrests of three young black men who he said were simply waiting for a bus. Their apparent crime, he said, was "waiting while black."

In an acknowledgment of



**Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) exits after addressing the National Urban League Convention in Cincinnati, July 25, 2014. Paul declared his support for a wide range of criminal justice and voting rights reforms, part of an ongoing bid to court black and Democratic voters.**

(Ty William Wright/The New York Times)

what was perhaps the biggest cloud hanging over his visit, Paul delicately touched on the controversy over his 2010 comments in which he suggested that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 encroached on individual liberties.

On Friday, the senator said his support for the act was unequivocal, echoing comments he has made repeatedly since 2010. He also said he wanted to see a greater role for the federal government in enforcing a second landmark civil rights bill, the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

"Not only do I support the Civil Rights act and the Voting Rights Act," he said, "I'm a Republican who wants to restore a federal role for the government in the Voting Rights Act."

Adapt the Voting Rights Act to the barriers people

face today in voting has become a contentious political question since the Supreme Court struck down a central element of the act last year and left it up to Congress to try and find a remedy.

Paul spoke not just of voting rights reform but also of criminal justice reform. While he was addressing the Urban League, his office announced that he had introduced a bill that would eliminate the disparity in sentencing law that treats the use of crack cocaine much more harshly than the use of other drugs, which critics say has a disproportionate impact on black offenders.

"Our nation has come a long way since the civil rights movement," he said. "But we must realize that race still plays a role in the enforcement of the law." □




**FOR SALE**  
*Condominiums & Villas*

A luxurious residential complex built to the highest level, with quality finishes, bright spaces and all the details one could dream for in their home.

**Walking distance to Eagle Beach and Spectacular Ocean View.**

C: +297 5927275  
T: +297 2801005  
E: info@leventaruba.com  
J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 244  
Eagle Beach, Aruba

**Aruba, Paradise in the Caribbean**



# Obama's UN envoy takes lead role in plane response

JULIE PACE

AP White House Correspondent

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — One day after a passenger jet was shot out of the sky, Samantha Power took her seat at the United Nations Security Council and angrily began building the Obama administration's case against separatists in eastern Ukraine and their Russian benefactors.

Her 13-minute remarks were both emotional and blistering, a combination that has become a trademark during her year as the American ambassador to the U.N. Power choked up when noting the three infants who were among the 298 people killed in the crash and paused for several seconds to compose herself.

And she left little ambiguity as to whom the U.S. believes is ultimately responsible for the downed plane. "Russia can end this war. Russia must end this war," Power declared in the emergency Security Council session, banging her clasped hands on the table in front of her for emphasis. The episode underscored the journalist and human rights activist-turned-diplomat's reputation as one of the Obama administration's most outspoken advocates for aggressive

action on the world stage. Yet as Power's tenure at the U.N. has made clear, tough talk alone can't overcome the veto power Russia wields on the Security Council or even guarantee that Power's boss in the

policy team: praise from Republicans.

"She laid out a very compelling case in the very early stages of the investigation," Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., the vice chairman of the Senate Intelli-

publican praise for Power was of Obama's more measured initial response to the downed plane.

In his first brief statement just hours after the aircraft was felled by a missile, Obama said the inci-

Russia and vowing to bring the perpetrators of the attack to justice.

Administration officials said any apparent daylight between the president and his U.N. envoy was by design and aimed at giving Obama more maneuverability in the sensitive diplomatic negotiations that would follow the crash. They also said the White House was involved in coordinating Power's remarks and backed the idea of using the emergency Security Council meeting as the administration's first opportunity to begin making a public case against Russia and the separatists. Indeed, the White House has turned to Power before to make a case for international action, drawing upon her reputation as a humanitarian interventionist and Pulitzer Prize-winning chronicler of genocides.

During her first month as U.N. ambassador, Power became one of the administration's leading public advocates for military action against Syria in retaliation for its chemical weapons attack on civilians. She spoke passionately about the matter at the United Nations and also delivered a speech in Washington where she argued that diplomatic options had been exhausted. □



**United States U.N. Ambassador Samantha Power speaks during a U.N. Security Council meeting at United Nations headquarters. One day after a passenger jet was shot out of the sky, Samantha Power took her seat at the United Nations Security Council and angrily began building the Obama administration's case against separatists in eastern Ukraine and their Russian benefactors. (AP Photo/John Minchillo)**

Oval Office will match her strong words with tough action.

Power's response to the downed Malaysia Airlines plane did bring about an increasingly rare result for a member of the Obama administration's foreign

Intelligence Committee, said in an interview. "She's done a heck of a job there being able to articulate what the real facts on the ground here are in a way that everybody in the world can understand."

Implicit in some of the Re-

presentative's speech, he said, was a sense of urgency that the president looked like it "may be a terrible tragedy." He strengthened his rhetoric the following day when he spoke about an hour after Power's speech at the Security Council, but was less definitive than his U.N. envoy in pinning blame on



## Blackjack tournament \$1200 guaranteed

Saturday, July 26, 2014

Join us Saturday as you tempt Lady Luck at our Blackjack Tournament.

Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Buy In Fee: \$10

Re-Buy Fee: \$5

 **HYATT  
REGENCY®**  
RESORT

For more information about the Blackjack Tournament, please contact our Players Advantage Club at 586-1234 ext. 4583.



# Carjacked vehicle hits US crowd, killing 3 kids

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Two men forced a woman into the backseat of her sport utility vehicle at gunpoint, drove off but later lost control and plowed into a group of people on a corner near a fruit stand in Philadelphia on Friday, police said. Three children, all siblings, were killed, and at least two other people were critically injured.

The accident occurred late Friday morning about a mile from where the carjacking occurred.

Homicide Capt. John Clark said the carjackers may have blown a tire as they turned a corner at high speed. The car ended up in a wooded area, its front end smashed against a stand of trees.

The two dead brothers were ages 7 and 10, and their sister was 15. Police said their mother, 34, was in extremely critical condition. Their identities weren't immediately released.

The carjackers fled the scene on foot and remained at large.

Also helping the children and their mother sell fruit



An investigator examines a heavily damaged SUV before it is towed from the scene of a fatal accident in North Philadelphia, Friday July 25, 2014. Two children were killed and three people critically injured when a hijacked car lost control and hit a group of people near a fruit stand, according to police.

(AP Photo/ Joseph Kaczmarek)

injured.

Police were offering a \$60,000 reward for the carjackers' capture.

They also asked businesses with surveillance cameras to provide footage and asked anyone with information in the case to come forward.

Employees at Education Works, an educational nonprofit across the street from the site of the wreck, told The Philadelphia Inquirer that they ran to try to help the victims. One boy had no pulse and another's was barely there, said Karen Payne, who runs a summer camp at the nonprofit.

Deputy Mayor Everett Gillison said the mayor was heartbroken. "The prayers of the city go out to this family," he said. □

was a neighbor, who also was struck. The neighbor, 65, was reported in stable condition, police said.

Police said the carjacked woman, a 45-year-old real estate agent who was forced into the backseat of her SUV, also was critically

## California:

## Prosecutors weigh charges after burglar killed

### LONG BEACH, California

**(AP)** — Prosecutors considering whether to charge a California man who says he fatally shot a violent burglar as she fled his home face a difficult decision because the case falls in a gray area involving self-defense, a legal expert said Friday.

Tom Greer, 80, fired the fatal shot after his collarbone was broken during an assault by the woman and a man he discovered in his home, police Chief Jim McDonnell said.

Greer told a TV station he fired at the unarmed pair inside and outside his home, with the fatal shot coming while the 28-year-old Andrea Miller was outside. Greer said he fired even though the woman told him not to shoot because she was pregnant.

"The lady didn't run as fast as the man, so I shot her in the back twice," Greer told the TV station. "She's dead ... but he got away."

An autopsy will determine if Miller was actually pregnant, Los Angeles County coroner's spokesman Ed Winter said.

Gus Adams, 26, was booked on suspicion of res-

idential burglary and murder and was being held on bail of just over \$1 million. The murder charge is possible because Adams is accused of participating in a felony that led to a death, McDonnell said.

The case was referred on Friday to prosecutors who will have to decide whether to charge Adams and Greer.

Under California law, homeowners have a right to protect themselves with deadly force inside their homes and in the immediate vicinity if they feel they are in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death, said Lawrence Rosenthal, a former federal prosecutor who teaches law at Chapman University.

But this case enters a gray area because Greer, by his own account, chased the pair and fired at them outside his home as they were fleeing, Rosenthal said.

Prosecutors will have to decide if the evidence shows the immediate threat had subsided by the time Greer fired again.

Greer's home had been burglarized three times be-

fore, and he believed the same suspects were responsible.

He returned home Tuesday night to find Miller and Adams in his home. Both suspects attacked him, hitting him with their fists and ultimately slamming him to the floor and breaking his collarbone, McDonnell said. Miller continued to hit him, McDonnell said, while Adams tried to pry open a safe.

When Miller left him to also work on the safe, Greer was able to get to another room where he grabbed a gun and returned to open fire, police said.

They fled through the garage and into an alley, and Greer chased them, firing again, McDonnell said. □

No

SERVICE CHARGE



**Promenade**  
RESTAURANT  
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1997

**LUNCH**  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
11am - 3pm

**DINNER**  
TUESDAY-SUNDAY  
5:00pm-10:00pm

**\$25**  
4 COURSE  
EARLY BIRD  
5:00pm - 7:30pm

*Live music by:*  
every friday  
7:00pm-9:00pm

Near low rise hotels  
**FOR RESERVATION ☎ 583-8899**  
*L.G. Smith Blvd. 160 near the low rise Hotels*







## Pelican Adventures



Celebrating our 28th anniversary with YOU!

### SPECIAL OF THE WEEK: Sunset & Dinner Cruise

Includes snacks, open Bar, caribbean music, after 2 hours of Sunset Cruise you will enjoy a 3 course Dinner at our Pelican Nest Restaurant on the Sea, spectacular view, professional service, Freshly made dishes to spoil your senses.



Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts or at our own Pelican Pier, located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort.

For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: [www.pelican-aruba.com](http://www.pelican-aruba.com)

PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

## US Financial Front:

# Orders for American durable goods up 0.7% in June

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Orders for long-lasting manufactured goods rebounded in June after a May decline, helped by a recovery in demand in a key category that signals business investment plans.

Orders for durable goods increased 0.7 percent in

the second half of the year, helped by stronger factory production.

The 0.7 percent overall increase was in line with economists' expectations and pushed total orders to \$239.9 billion. So far this year, orders are up 3.5 percent over the same period

mand for motor vehicles. The drop in auto demand was expected to be temporary given strong sales of new cars this year.

Orders for machinery rose 2.4 percent while demand for primary metals such as steel increased 0.9 percent. Orders for computers and

more in the second half of this year.

The optimism is based on a belief that the five-year-old economic recovery is finally gaining traction, with businesses confident enough to step up hiring. That uptick in hiring is expected to power stronger consumer spending and more factory production.

The government reported that factory output increased for a fifth straight month in June as manufacturers cranked out more aircraft, chemicals and furniture. For the April-June quarter, manufacturing output accelerated to the fastest pace in more than two years and economists

are looking for further gains in the months ahead, reflecting strong demand for autos and increased spending by businesses on new equipment.

A surprisingly resilient jobs report for June showed that factories added 16,000 positions, the most in four months, and the average work week for manufacturing employees remained at a post-recession high.

The Institute for Supply Management reported that its closely watched manufacturing index expanded in June for a 13th straight month with broad-based growth across nearly all of the 18 sectors that the index covers. □



An assembly line worker works on a 2015 Chrysler 200 automobile at the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant in Sterling Heights, Mich. The Commerce Department released positive durable goods data for June on Friday, July 25, 2014.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

June on a seasonally adjusted basis following a 1 percent decline in May, the Commerce Department reported Friday.

A category viewed as a proxy for business investment plans rose a solid 1.4 percent, recovering after a revised 1.2 percent drop in May. It was the best showing since orders in this core capital goods category rose 4.7 percent in March. The strength last month came from solid gains in demand for commercial aircraft and machinery. Analysts expect economic activity will strengthen in

last year.

"June's strong orders data and other survey evidence suggest that business investment will continue to grow at a decent rate in the second half of the year," said Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics. He said he expects growth would rebound to 3.2 percent in the April-June quarter.

Demand for transportation products rose 0.6 percent, reflecting a big 8.2 percent gain in orders for commercial aircraft which offset a 2.1 percent drop in de-

related products dropped 13.9 percent but that followed a big 11.5 percent increase in the previous month.

The overall economy went into reverse in the January-March quarter, with output shrinking at an annual rate of 2.9 percent. That reflected in part a severe winter that disrupted U.S. economic activity, from factory production to shopping.

Many economists believe growth rebounded to a rate around 3 percent in the April-June quarter and they are looking for momentum to build even



**STEAK • SEAFOOD & SUN !**

Same owner's of Driftwood Seafood Restaurant.  
We fish our own daily fish so we serve the freshest quality seafood on the island.

**The Best prices on the Island!**



**NO SERVICE CHARGE**

Open for Lunch + Dinner  
11:30am - 10:30pm  
Monday CLOSED

*Fresh catch & daily Seafood Specials*

We are located close to the High + Low Rise Hotels  
Reservation Suggested

**TEL: 280.6666**





# In an ancestral town, NYC Mayor de Blasio is celebrated

**M. GRYNBAUM**

**GAIA PIANIGIANI**

© 2014 New York Times

**GRASSANO, Italy** - This medieval mountaintop town is the sort of spot where life can feel slow and simple, where gently curving cobblestone lanes lead to pastoral views stretching for miles across wheat fields, and orange groves dot the landscape.

It is also a place whose prospects are not bright. This agricultural region of southern Italy has been withered by emigration and economic woes; its youth left with few options for school or work.

"There is nothing for young people here," Domenico Pellegrino, 19, said, standing on a piazza on Thursday.

Asked where they might like to live, some nearby 11-year-olds answered Berlin, Miami, Munich and Tokyo. Italy was not mentioned.

So when Grassano paused on Thursday to honor New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, the grandson of a woman born within this city's walls (but who left 111 years ago for a life in America), it was as much a call for renewal as a celebration.

celebration.

"This region needs to stand up again, and we can do it with you," the mayor of Grassano, Francesco Sanseverino, told de Blasio at a ceremony that mixed patriotism and pride with candor about the difficulties this rural town has faced.

"Your visit makes up for the tragic history of emigration from this area," Sanseverino said. "We don't want to surrender. We want to unite."

Hundreds of residents packed the town square for de Blasio's event, the mayor's second ancestral visit of his weeklong Italian vacation. They cheered as a band played "The Star-Spangled Banner." They offered flowers to de Blasio's wife and daughter. A handwritten sign was draped over a balcony overlooking the stage: "Never stop dreaming," it read.

Local development officials, who are hoping that Matera, a nearby city, can win a competition to host European cultural events in 2019, buttonholed the national journalists who had come for de Blasio's homecoming.

Pellegrino, the 19-year-old, said he hoped the visit



Mayors from the province of Benevento, wearing sashes, and local residents during a ceremony for New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio in Sant'Agata de Goti, his ancestral home, in Italy, July 23, 2014. The town welcomed de Blasio, who had visited in his youth, with an honorary citizenship and elaborate ceremony.

(Gianni Cipriano/The New York Times)

would be helpful. "Maybe we can get a bit of publicity," he said.

De Blasio did not avoid the question of Grassano's unsettled future.

"Sometimes," he said, "it's easier for someone from outside to see the strength and the beauty of a place. My own grandparents left

southern Italy in search of economic opportunity because it was very limited, even then; it's still limited today," he said later at a news conference. "It's important in towns like Grassano to be reminded of how much they have, and sometimes an outsider has the ability to do that."

Anna Briganti, the mayor's maternal grandmother, was born here in 1881 on a bluff in a squat home that still stands today. Her family was educated; one brother, Gaetano, became a noted 19th-century agriculturalist.

On Thursday, the town presented de Blasio with a book that included copies of his grandmother's emigration papers from 1903, when she left for the United States.

The mayor's return generated much excitement. Some residents came in costume, teenage girls donning Victorian-era dresses and men in capes and shields. Not for the first time on this trip, a speaker suggested that de Blasio would one day return in another position - as president of the United States. Asked by reporters later about his interest in that job, the mayor demurred. "That is very kind of them," he said, "but, as you know, my work is very, very local." He added, "I look forward to coming back someday as a private citizen."

This was the last public event of de Blasio's Italian tour, and his eighth Q. and A. session in five days across three cities. □



Dante de Blasio, left, and Mayor Bill de Blasio of New York, right, look on as first lady Chirlane McCray dances with a village elder in Grassano, Italy, July 24, 2014. The de Blasios' visit was a huge occasion in this south Italian town still beset by the same economic stagnancy that drove the mayor's grandparents to America.

(Gianni Cipriano/The New York Times)



# As Ukraine makes headway, Russia is said to step up role

DAVID M. HERSZENHORN  
MICHAEL R. GORDON  
© 2014 New York Times

KIEV, Ukraine - Russia has stepped up its direct involvement in fighting between the Ukrainian military and separatist insurgents, unleashing artillery attacks from Russian territory and massing heavy weapons along the border, Ukrainian and U.S. officials say. Russia's aim, the officials say, appeared to be to stem and perhaps roll back gains made by government forces, who have been retaking rebel-held territory and trying to seal the border. They say Russia's accelerated intervention raises the prospect of more direct and more heated fighting between Ukraine and Russia. U.S. officials, citing military intelligence, including satellite images, warned that Russia appeared to be preparing to arm the rebels with more high-powered weaponry than it has previously supplied, including tanks, armored vehicles and powerful Tornado multiple rocket launchers. Among the gains of the Ukrainian forces, following days of intense fighting, was the recapture of Lysychansk. The city had been a rebel stronghold, posing a strategic obstacle to government troops pressing through the Luhansk region from the north and west. The Ukrainian military called in air support as its ground troops struggled to expel insurgents from the city of more than 100,000 people, on the right bank of the Seversky Donets River. The reports of increased hostilities suggest that, rather than scale back its military intervention in Ukraine after the Malaysia Airlines jet was shot down by a missile that the United States and Ukraine say came from Russia, Moscow is instead devoting even more firepower to the pro-Russian separatists' cause, in the face of international condemnation and toughened U.S. sanctions. A NATO military officer, who

spoke on the condition of anonymity because the comments were about sensitive intelligence matters, said by telephone, "The United States has shared intelligence information with NATO today regarding strikes that are occurring from within Russian territory, firing into Ukraine territory." In Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, a military spokesman said Friday that Ukrainian troops were coming under increased fire from the Russian side of the border, and that the Ukrainian military had recently shot down three Russian surveillance drones. One was used to target a Ukrainian base near the town of Amvrosiivka, which then quickly came under heavy rocket attack, the spokesman said. The military spokesman, Andriy Lysenko, said Ukrainian forces were engaged in particularly heavy fighting near a border crossing at Chervona Zorya, not far from where two Ukrainian fighter jets were downed Wednesday in what Ukrainian officials said was a missile attack from the Russian side of the border. "We have facts of shelling of Ukrainian positions from the territory of Russian Federation," Lysenko said. "We have facts on the violation of air border between Ukraine and Russia." Lysenko said some Russian soldiers had surrendered to Ukrainian forces. "We have information about weapons and mercenaries, who have respective skills for warfare, who have been passing over from the territory of Russian Federation," he said. Russia has repeatedly denied that its forces are involved in the fighting in eastern Ukraine and that it is supplying rebels with weapons and other equipment, despite a substantial body of evidence collected by Ukraine and its allies. Ukraine and the United States have also said the missile that destroyed Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was fired from rebel territory using a system supplied by



A pro-Russian fighter stands next to bodies of crew members of destroyed Ukrainian tank in the northern outskirts of city of Donetsk, eastern Ukraine. Russia has stepped up its direct involvement in fighting between the Ukrainian military and separatist insurgents, unleashing artillery attacks from Russian territory and massing heavy weapons along the border, Ukrainian and U.S. officials say.

(AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky)

Russia. Ukrainian officials say their forces in recent days have recaptured at least 10 towns, shrinking the amount of territory under rebel control in the embattled regions of Luhansk and Donetsk and gaining substantial advantage, includ-

ing over some of the main highways in the region. Officials have said they believe that they could defeat the rebels within three weeks if there is no further intervention by Russia, either in the form of new vehicles and weapons or - less likely - a direct invasion by Russian

forces. While Ukraine has long complained about the flow of weapons, tanks and volunteer fighters across the Russian border, the allegations of direct Russian intervention have grown far more serious in the last two weeks. □



EXCELSIOR CASINO, located at Holiday Inn  
The most complete gambling experience!!

- ★ POKER
- ★ CRAPS
- ★ SLOT MACHINES
- ★ ROULETTE TABLES
- ★ BLACK JACK
- ★ RACE & SPORT BOOK
- ★ BINGO

Lady Luck is waiting for you at EXCELSIOR CASINO!  
For more information give us a call (297) 586-7777





# Teams converge on site of Air Algerie crash

**ELAINE GANLEY**  
**SYLVIE CORBET**  
**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — Aviation experts, criminal investigators and soldiers began converging Friday on an isolated patch of restive Mali to search for clues that might explain why an Air Algerie jetliner fell from the sky in a storm and apparently disintegrated on impact. French authorities said the catastrophe was probably the result of extreme bad weather, but they refused

bers were Spanish. One man pleaded with French officials not to hold back any information about the crash that killed his brother and other family members. "Tell us. Especially give us an explanation," Amadou Ouedraogo asked on BFM-TV. French authorities planned to meet Saturday with victims' families. The MD-83 was flying from Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso, to Algiers, Al-

France has opened a manslaughter investigation because of the 54 French victims. One of plane's two black boxes was found Friday and sent to Gao, the northern Mali city where a contingent of French troops is based. French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said victims' remains would be sent to Gao for identification before being returned home. Difficult access to the area and instability could hinder

Islamist extremists controlling the region. A French soldier was killed earlier this month in the Gao region. The debris field to the south is in a concentrated area in the Gossi region near the border with Burkina Faso. The area is "in a zone of savannah and sand with very difficult access, especially in this rainy season," Fabius said at a presentation with the defense and transport ministers. Traveling by road from the debris field to Gossi would take six hours, he said, stressing that the field investigation could take time. Col. Patrick Tourron of the French Gendarmerie's victim-identification unit told BFM-TV that fingerprints, DNA and teeth would provide the primary clues to each victim's identity. Surviving family members were to be asked for victims' toothbrushes and the names of their dentists, he said. Video of the wreckage site taken by a soldier from Burkina Faso, the nation first on the scene, showed unrecognizable debris scattered over a desolate area dotted with scrubby vegetation. There were bits of twisted metal but no identifiable parts such as the fuselage or tail, or victims' bodies. An aerial view shown later on French television revealed similar devastation. Investigators from Mali, Burkina Faso, Algeria and Spain were joining the inquiry, the French foreign minister said. □



This photo provided Friday July 25, 2014 by the French army shows a helicopter at the site of the plane crash in Mali. French soldiers secured a black box from the Air Algerie wreckage site in a desolate region of restive northern Mali on Friday, the French president said. (AP Photo/ECPAD)

to exclude other possibilities, like terrorism, without a full investigation. All 118 people aboard the plane were killed. The loss of flight 5017 wiped out whole families. Nearly half of the dead were French. The passenger list also included other Europeans, Canadians and Africans. The six crew mem-

beria, when it disappeared early Thursday just 50 minutes after takeoff — the third crash of a passenger plane in the last week. More than 200 French, Malian and Dutch troops from the United Nations force in Mali secured the site ahead of the arrival this weekend of aviation and criminal investigators.

the investigation. Gao is in the heart of a still-restive desert and mountain area in northern Mali that fell under the control of Tuareg separatists, then al-Qaida linked Islamist extremists after a 2012 military coup. French forces intervened in the west African country in January 2013 to rout Is-

## Iraq cleric urges leaders not to 'cling' to power

**SAMEER N. YACOB**  
**VIVIAN SALAMA**  
**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric made a thinly veiled appeal to Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to step down, calling upon political leaders Friday not to "cling" to their posts at the expense of political stability as lawmakers struggle to form a new government that can tackle rising violence in the country. Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani's comments, relayed by a representative during prayers in the Shiite holy city of Karbala, came a day after Iraq's parliament named a veteran Kurdish politician as president. The new president, Fouad Massoum, now has the important task of selecting a candidate for prime minister, who must then try to form a government. Al-Maliki, who has led the country since 2006, is fighting for a third term. His political bloc won the most seats in April parliamentary elections but failed to get a majority and so needs to build a coalition in order to govern. Leaders are under pressure to form an inclusive government that can draw Sunni support away from the insurgency. But Sunnis have long accused al-Maliki of marginalizing their community, and even many of his Shiite and Kurdish allies say he has monopolized power. Al-Sistani did not name specific leaders. Last month, however, the cleric called on al-Maliki to step aside, according to a senior member of a prominent Shiite family that has for decades maintained regular contact with al-Sistani. "The gravity of the phase Iraq is undergoing requires the concerned parties to bear their national responsibilities, which require sacrifice and not to cling to posts," al-Sistani's spokesman Abdul-Mahdi al-Karbalaie said in his sermon. "This government ... should enjoy broad national acceptance so that it will be able to face the current challenges, correct the many mistakes of the past, and unite the people in order to combat terrorism." □

## Jordan shoots down 'aerial target' near Syria

**OMAR AKOUR**  
**Associated Press**

**AMMAN, Jordan (AP)** — Jordan's air force shot down an "aerial target" near the Syrian border on Friday, a Jordanian military official said. Eyewitnesses said the object was a drone. It was not immediately clear where the object came from, but there have been reports of intense fighting in the southern Syrian province of Daraa that borders Jordan. Syria's civil war, now in its fourth year, has often

spilled across the country's borders. Also, extremists from the Islamic State group last month seized a huge chunk of territory straddling the Iraq-Syria border, declared a self-styled caliphate and imposed their harsh interpretation of Islam on the civilian population in the area. In Syria, members of the Islamic State fought government forces in different areas on Friday, mostly in the country's north. Since their blitz offensive in Iraq in June, the Islamic State has increasingly taken on

President Bashar Assad's forces in a push to seize as much of Syrian territory as possible. The aerial target was followed by Jordan's air force and shot down at dawn over an empty area in the province of Mafraq, said the Jordanian official, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. "The armed forces will not allow any infringement of the country's security," he said. According to eyewitnesses, who spoke on condition of anonymity fearing

for their safety, the drone was shot down near the Zaatari camp in Jordan, which is home to more than 120,000 Syrian refugees who fled the conflict at home. In April, Jordanian warplanes struck a convoy of vehicles as they were trying to enter Jordan from Syria. The Jordanian military said the aircraft destroyed the vehicles after firing warning shots. Jordan hosts nearly 600,000 registered Syrian refugees — although Jordanian officials say the real number is far higher. □



# World Cup over, but some Argentines won't go home

JENNY BARCHFIELD

Associated Press

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — Lucas Bazan Pontoni rifled through his pockets for the 45-cent lunch fee as he stood in line at a downtown soup kitchen. When he came up short, an acquaintance sprang for the government-subsidized meal.

One of about 160,000 Argentines who flooded into Brazil for the World Cup, Pontoni hardly fits the image of deep-pocketed foreigners who dropped around \$3 billion in Brazil during the monthlong tournament. The 23-year-old actor is broke, and he has no immediate plans to return home almost two weeks after Germany beat Argentina in the July 13 final.

"Brazil is amazing, and I want to stay," said Pontoni, who had been camping out in Rio's Sambadrome Carnival parade grounds, lunching at soup kitchens and searching for an odd job to cover bus fare to see northern Brazil. "It could be weeks or months or longer. I'm going to see where life



An Argentina soccer fan waves Argentina's national flag on Copacabana beach in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Local media reports say tens of thousands of Argentine fans have remained in the country after the tournament ended. But the prospect of a large number of foreigners selling handicrafts, juggling at intersections for handouts or relying on government social services for poor Brazilians has officials worried.

and the road take me."

Local media reports say tens of thousands of Argentine fans remain in the country. They appear to be overwhelmingly young and male: Most are in their 20s, and less than a third of them are women.

Brazil's Federal Police did

not respond to email and telephone requests seeking confirmation of how many Argentines are still here. But the prospect of a large number of foreigners selling handicrafts, juggling at intersections for handouts or relying on government social services for poor Bra-

zilians has officials worried. Although Brazil's once-gangbuster economy has slowed in recent years, the situation is far better than that in crisis-racked Argentina, which has a shortage of dollars and one of the world's highest inflation rates.

(AP Photo/Leo Correa)

Antonio Pedro Figueira de Mello, who heads Rio's tourism promotion agency, has acknowledged that controls along Brazil's 1,260-kilometer (780-mile) land border with its southern neighbor may have been too lax during the tournament.

"We were taken by surprise" by the influx of Argentines, the Rio newspaper O Globo quoted Mello as saying. "In any place in the world, people have to state where they're going, how much time they're staying, what resources they have and whether they have health insurance. That was not done."

Argentines don't need a visa, or even a passport, to visit Brazil. A government ID card will do.

Mello spoke at the Sambadrome, which was turned into a makeshift campsite to help accommodate the waves of Argentines who arrived by car, bus and motorhome during the World Cup. The site was closed last week, and the last campers were evicted. □

## Russia:

## McDonald's food has 'too many calories'

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Nearly a quarter-century after McDonald's startled and delighted Soviets with their first taste of American fast-food culture, the company's now facing a suit that could ban it from selling some of its signature products.

The Russian consumer protection agency said Friday it is taking the company to court for selling foods that contain more fats and carbohydrates than are allowed by national regulations.

McDonald's did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

The suit comes amid especially high tensions between Moscow and Washington over the Ukraine crisis; the United States has slapped an array of sanctions on Russia over its annexation of Crimea from

Ukraine for allegedly supporting separatist rebels who are fighting in eastern Ukraine.

There's no demonstrable connection between the McDonald's suit and the tensions, but the consumer protection agency, Rospotrebnadzor, has a history of actions that appear to dovetail Russia's political agenda. As tensions between Russia and Georgia escalated before their 2008 war, Russia banned the import of Georgian wine and mineral water — two of its major export products — for failing to meet sanitary norms. Last year, as tensions heated up over Ukraine's desire to sign a trade pact with the European Union, Russia banned imports of chocolates made by the company of Petro Poroshenko, a tycoon who supported the EU deal and is

now Ukraine's president.

Rospotrebnadzor said on its website that it brought the case after inspections of two of the company's restaurants in Novgorod.

According to the statement, some food was found with microbial contamination and several items had caloric values two to three times higher than allowed by national regulations. Products that were mentioned for incorrect nutritional information were cheeseburgers, Royal Cheeseburgers — the local equivalent of the Quarter Pounder — fish sandwiches and several milkshake varieties.

The suits asks that sale of McDonald's products that do not meet the regulations be declared illegal, but it was not clear what penalty the company could face. □



**WACKY WAHOO'S**

PALM BEACH #33-A [WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM](http://WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM)

**STEAK, SEAFOOD, B.B.Q. & FUN!**

Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's.  
We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

**Very reasonable price, exciting menu and  
NO SERVICE CHARGE**

**Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00**  
Monday - Saturday



**FRESH CATCH & SEAFOOD**  
We are located close to the High-rise hotel's at walking distance.  
RESERVATION SUGGESTED

**TEL: 586-7333**





## Russian execs fear lasting damage from MH17

**LAURA MILLS  
N. VASILYEVA**  
**Associated Press**

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Having for months dismissed Western sanctions on Russia as toothless, business leaders here are now afraid that the downing of the Malaysian jetliner will bring about an international isolation that will cause serious and lasting economic damage.

Throughout the Ukrainian crisis, U.S. and European sanctions had mainly targeted a handful of individuals, sparing economic ties. Then last week the U.S. imposed penalties on some of Russia's largest corporations. And when the airliner was shot down just a day later in Ukraine, allegedly by separatists with Moscow's support, concern grew in Russia that the sanctions would only get worse as President Vladimir Putin shows little sign of cooperation.

Reinforcing those concerns, the European Union said Friday it is planning newer, tougher penalties on businesses.

"Over the past few months, there was a sense that Mr. Putin acted decisively, forcefully, and correctly, and that everybody else in the world would accommodate themselves to that reality and we'd get back to something like business as usual," said Bernard Sucher, a Moscow-based entrepreneur and board member of Aton, an independent investment bank.

"Now we're talking about real fear."

It's not clear how quickly that fear and the country's overall economic pain might soften Putin's foreign policies. He keeps tight control over business leaders and still enjoys a high

After that move, which triggered a deep freeze in relations with the West, stock markets in Russia dropped only to later rebound as investors understood the country's trade relations would remain largely unscathed. Europe, which is



**Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, and CEO of state-controlled Russian oil company Rosneft Igor Sechin speak in the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia. Having for months dismissed Western sanctions on Russia as toothless, business leaders here are now afraid that the crash of the Malaysian jetliner will bring about an international isolation that will cause serious and lasting economic damage. (AP Photo/Maxim Shemetov)**

popularity rating. But some analysts note the fear of tougher sanctions may in fact already be having an impact, for example by keeping Russia from trying to annex eastern Ukraine the way it did with Crimea in March.

in frail economic health, dared not block energy imports from Russia or the trade in goods such as cars. Oil companies like BP and ExxonMobil continued their operations in Russia, with some even signing new deals.

The U.S. took a tougher stance, but until last week was also careful to limit sanctions to asset freezes on individuals who were perceived to have had a hand in destabilizing Ukraine.

On July 16, the night before the Malaysia Airlines jet was shot down, Russian markets appeared to have fully recovered, with the MICEX stock index adding 23 percent since March 1. Then last week, the U.S. announced new sanctions that had investors in Russia fear a turn for the worse. The U.S. shut off its financial markets for a broad swath of defense companies as well as Russia's largest oil company, Rosneft, gas producer Novatek, which is half-owned by a close Putin ally, and a major bank, VEB. The move offered business executives a glimpse of what they had thought would never happen: serious international isolation.

According to Alexis Rodzianko, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia, those sanctions were the first to really pack a punch because they were "broader and more specific: they went beyond the symbolic." Rodzianko said anecdotal evidence suggests some investment decisions were delayed, "particularly when people were just considering coming in to the market."

**Continued on Page 27**

## UK's economy grows to surpass pre-crisis peak

**LONDON (AP)** — Britain's economy has grown to surpass the peak it reached in 2008, before the global banking crisis caused a deep recession, official figures showed Friday.

The Office for National Statistics said gross domestic product grew by 0.8 percent in the three months through June compared with the previous quarter. It expanded 3.1 percent over the year, putting it 0.2 percent ahead of its pre-crisis peak in early 2008.

The global financial crisis triggered a deep downturn for the British economy. By mid-2009, GDP was more than 7 percent below its pre-recession level. Treasury chief George Osborne said Friday's figures marked a "major milestone in our long-term economic plan."

On Thursday, the International Monetary Fund predicted that Britain's economy would grow by 3.2 percent this year, making it the fastest-growing among major industrialized nations.

Opposition politicians and some analysts warned that the recovery is built on shaky foundations. Much of the GDP growth was in the services sector, which expanded by 1 percent. Manufacturing grew by 0.2 percent, while construction shrank by 0.5 percent.

"The U.K. economy isn't as strong as it looks," said Ben Brettell, senior economist at stockbrokers Hargreaves Lansdown. "While it has surpassed its pre-crisis peak in absolute terms, a larger population means GDP per capita is around 6 percent lower." In another sign of returning financial-sector confidence, the Royal Bank of Scotland announced Friday that its pre-tax profits nearly doubled to 2.65 billion pounds (\$4.5 billion) in the first half of the year. RBS was bailed out by the British government during the crisis and remains 81 percent owned by taxpayers. Its shares jumped over 13 percent after the earnings report. □

## German business confidence drops for 3rd month

**BERLIN (AP)** — German business confidence fell for a third consecutive month amid ongoing concerns about the economic impact of the crises in Ukraine and the Middle East, though consumer confidence in Europe's largest economy remained robust, surveys showed Friday.

The Ifo institute said its closely watched business confidence index, based on responses from some 7,000 companies, fell to 108 points in July from 109.7 points in June.

It was a worse showing than economists had expected. Businesses' assessment of their current situation and of the outlook for the next six months both fell.

Andreas Rees, an economist at UniCredit, pointed to uncertainty over "what all the recent events could mean for exports and domestic demand," despite Russia's relatively small share of German trade. But he cautioned against overinterpreting the Ifo index's third straight decline, arguing that "a collapse or

anything similarly dramatic is not in the pipeline."

Separately, the GfK research institute said its forward-looking survey of German consumer confidence showed a slight improvement, rising to 9 points for August from 8.9 in July.

"Despite the escalation in the situations in Israel and Ukraine, German consumers continue to be exceedingly optimistic this summer," GfK said in a statement. It noted, however, that its most recent poll of some 2,000 people

was conducted before the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight 17 in eastern Ukraine.

Germans' economic outlook remained good, GfK said, with consumers' income expectations rising to the highest value the institute has recorded since German reunification. However, their willingness to buy declined after being bolstered the previous month by the European Central Bank's decision to cut its benchmark interest rate to a record low of 0.15 percent. □





## Loyal Visitors Honored at the Costa Linda Beach Resort



**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba at the Costa Linda Beach Resort as Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Stuart and Karen Fishkin of Syosset New York, and Neil and Lisa Van Doren and their son Matthew Van Doren from Spotswood New Jersey. All the honorees are loyal members of the Costa Linda and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the



climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home, the people are like a family to them and Costa Linda is their home away from home. The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Miriam Rodriguez representing the Costa Linda Beach Resort and family members of the honorees. □



## David and Sandi Honored at Holiday Inn!



**PALM BEACH** - David Leon & Sandi Restino from Ontario, Canada were honored as Distinguished Visitors after returning to Aruba for 10 consecutive years. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The recent honoring took place at the Holiday Inn, coordinated by Ms. Marouska Heyliger, Aruba Tourism Authority Representative. The couple love coming to Aruba for the beautiful weather and the feel of Home Away From Home.



## To Fight Personal Fraud:

# Caribbean Asked to Be Aware, Be Alert and Be Informed!

- Campaign aims at tapping people power to battle consumer fraud led by a collaborative front – Western Union and its Agents in the region.

**ORANJESTAD** - Caribbean consumers are being urged to protect themselves against fraud by applying a simple process to kick-in sharper awareness and skepticism when

considering any financial transaction that involves a stranger or unusual circumstances.

The "Be Aware, Be Alert and Be Informed" Consumer Protection Campaign, launched today by The Western Union Company (NYSE: WU) and its Agents across the Caribbean region, urge consumers to take a proactive approach to prevent them falling vic-



says Sean Mason, Western Union Vice President for the Caribbean region.

"We are also asking the Caribbean community to share this information with family and friends and make a difference".

In select markets, the "2014 Be Aware, Be Alert and Be Informed" Campaign is coupled with information on specific types of

## The Emergency Scam

**Did you know?**

Scammers impersonate the loved ones of their victims, and make urgent pleas to send money, often to another country — this is known as an emergency scam. These attacks typically happen during high travel seasons and whenever people are most vulnerable.

"Emergency scams play off peoples' emotions and strong desire to help others in need," said Shelley Bernhardt, Director of Consumer Protection at Western Union. "Resist the urge to send money before confirming the emergency."

Sharing personal information online, especially on social media, can also leave you vulnerable. Con artists can hack into these accounts to collect enough of your personal details to then target your friends and family with frantic requests to send them money — claiming an injury, a lost or stolen wallet or even arrest. As a result, it is very important to be selective about the personal information that you share online.

### Tips to remember when sending money:

- 1 Never send money to someone you have not met in person
- 2 Never send money for an emergency situation without verifying that it's a real emergency
- 3 Never send funds from a check in your account until it clears

FOLLOWING THESE TIPS CAN HELP PROTECT YOU FROM BECOMING A VICTIM.



**Stay alert!**

Go to [westernunion.com/stopfraud](http://westernunion.com/stopfraud)



tims to scams. The objective is to tap into community reasoning power to battle consumer fraud well before the decision to write a cheque, transfer from an account or send a money transfer. The process asks Caribbean consumers to:

- Be Aware: Examine the offer. Anything out of the ordinary is a red flag.

- Be Alert: If an offer is too good to ignore; check with another, it helps the rational part of the brain activate and assess authenticity.

- Be Informed and Inform: Report a suspicious offer to local Police or WU Fraud Hotline 1-800-448-1492. Prevention is more effective than seeking redress.

Posters and brochures available at Western Union Agent locations throughout the Caribbean with prevention tips and guidance on what to do if you feel you've been victimized. "The most important tip we stress is to never send money to someone you don't know or haven't met in person—and be sure to confirm an emergency situation is real before sending money,"

scams—including Emergency Scam, Relationship Scam, Lottery Scam and Online Purchasing Scam. "Fraudsters can trick their victims in a variety of ways and so it is important that our customers are informed and know what to look for," alerts Shelley Bernhardt, Western Union Director of Fraud and Fraud Training.

"Our customers work hard to earn their money and it is important they understand the risks and take the necessary steps to protect themselves from being defrauded. We want our customers to be informed, and have great optimism that being informed is the key to their protection," said Mirla Rasmijn Manager Compliance Department with Post Aruba.

"Knowing what to look for is fundamental to spotting the warning signs of a scam and then avoiding it."

Learn more on our website: <http://www.wu.com/fraudawareness>, [www.postaruba.com](http://www.postaruba.com) or by following us on: Facebook ([facebook.com/WesternUnion](https://www.facebook.com/WesternUnion)) and Twitter (@WUStopFraud). □



# Jessica Maduro is Employee of the Month at Salt & Pepper!



**PALM BEACH** - The lovely girl with the biggest smile in the picture is Jessica Maduro, a great colleague and super waitress at Salt & Pepper Restaurant in the Arawak Garden. Jessica is always in a good mood, is helpful and ready to pitch in when extra support is needed. So reasons enough to put her in the spotlight and make her Employee of the Month at Salt & Pepper.

Salt & Pepper Restaurant is one of the great group of restaurants, kiosks and shops on the plaza across from the Occidental Resort on the hi-rise strip.

The restaurant is famous for its tapas, but there is also a regular menu. Many visitors come to Salt & pepper for breakfast, but lunch and dinner are neither to be sneezed at.

Congratulations to Jessica - please go and say hello to her at Salt & Pepper! □



**SUPER**  
**B I N G O**  
**SATURDAY!**  
 Super 4-Card BINGO starting at 1pm!  
 \$6 for 4-Card BINGO • 8 Games to Play  
**\$1,000 in Cash Prizes!**  
 Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our Monthly Early Bird Drawing  
 when you purchase your card prior to 12 noon!

*Where Aruba goes to play!*  
 Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • casinoalhambra.com  
 Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

**The Shops  
 At Alhambra Casino**  
 Offering a wide variety of  
 Retail & Dining Outlets,  
 Salon & Spa Services,  
 Souvenirs and more.

Baskin Robbins • Dunkin Donuts  
 Fusion Piano & Wine Bar  
 Juan Valdez Café • Subway • R-Glass  
 Hungry Piranha • Intermezzo • The Salon  
 Hollywood Smokehouse (opening soon)  
 Aruba Aloe • Bijoux Turner Boutique  
 Daher & Co • Diamonds International  
 The Lazy Lizard • The Market

**Alhambra**  
 CASINO AND SHOPS



## Sadia Futa Celebrates 10 Years of Outstanding Service!



**NOORD** - Her name pops up at every Employee of Month Award Ceremony at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort, as she has been nominated and also won the coveted title a number of times. She also

regularly collects Shining Star Awards and Extra Mile Awards for her impeccable performance at the reservations department, taking care of guests and owners requests and needs. Sadie started at the resort

on a part time basis at the front desk and was quickly promoted to full time after graduation from the prestigious Colegio Arubano/Havo. Sadie explains that she loves her current job at reservations and enjoys

its inherent challenges, including handling all of the resort's social media accounts, such as Facebook and Twitter, and embracing the responsibility for the website updates. At a special lunch party at

Sweet Peppers, Sadie was praised by members of management on behalf of the board of director, who thanked her for her stellar conduct, engaging personality and loyalty to the resort. □

## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

**Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"**



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009



### Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com) Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.





Lithuania's Ramunas Navardauskas crosses the finish line to win the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 208.5 kilometers (129.6 miles) with start in Maubourguet and finish in Bergerac, France, Friday, July 25, 2014. Associated Press

## With Nibali in command, Tour is about 2nd place

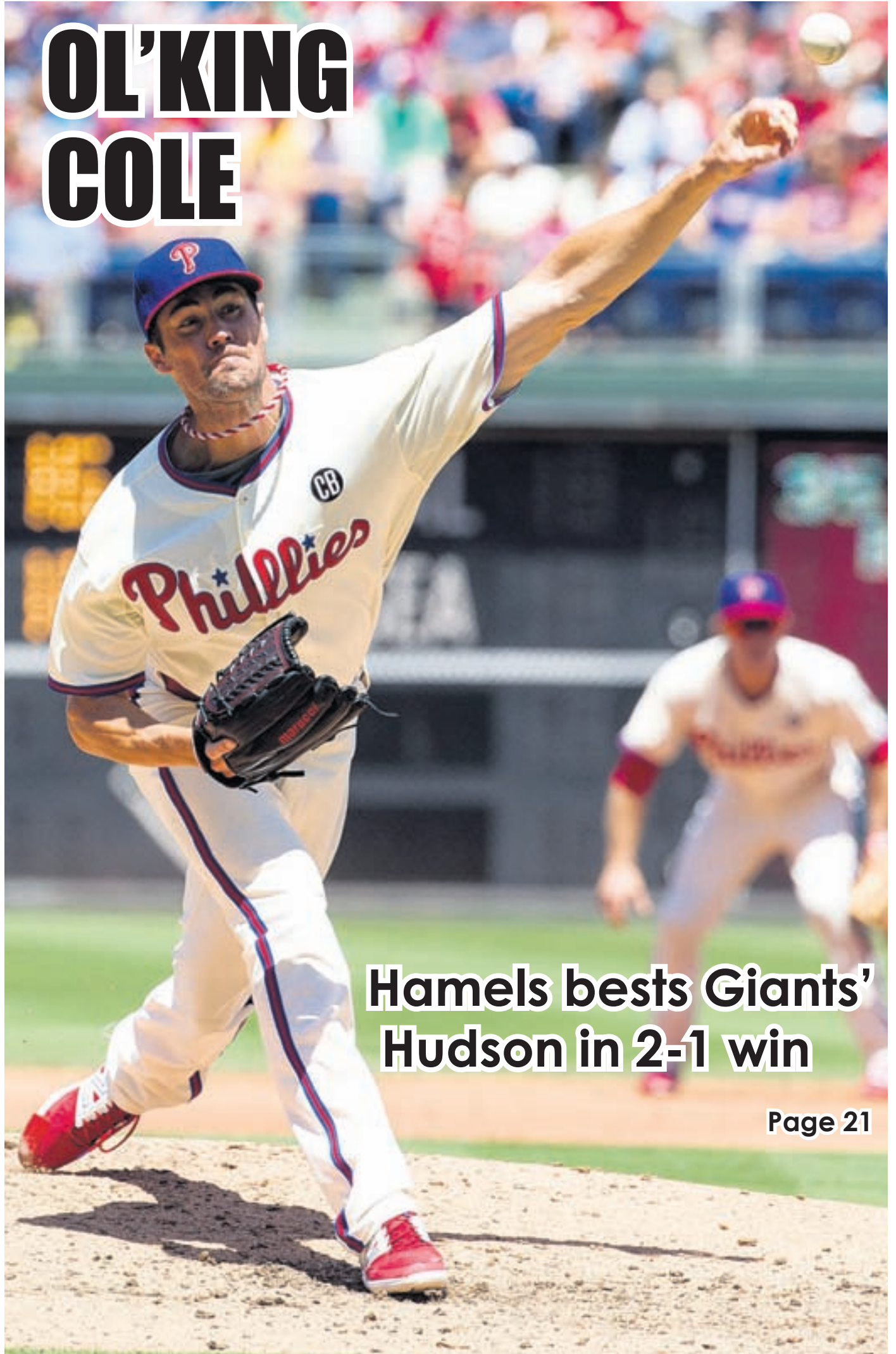
JAMEY KEATEN  
Associated Press

**BERGERAC, France (AP)** — Ramunas Navardauskas gave Lithuania and his American team a stage victory Friday at the Tour de France. Now cycling's great showcase is reduced to this — the race for second place behind Vincenzo Nibali. The Italian, who has all but won the yellow jersey, cruised to the finish in Stage 19 in the rain-splattered pack behind the Lithuanian's break-away. Only a mishap of the highest order during Saturday's time trial would deny Nibali victory in Paris on Sunday.

With cool and methodical racing, Nibali has bit by bit built a lead of more than seven minutes on his closest rivals, and much more against many others. Frenchmen Thibaut Pinot and Jean-Christophe Peraud and Spaniard Alejandro Valverde are vying for second and third. The showdown comes down to Saturday's 54-kilometer (33.5-mile) race against the clock from Bergerac to Perigueux. Relatively long by Tour standards, the time trial will require riders to maintain a steady rhythm and face the wind or rain on their own without the protection of the pack. Only 15 seconds separate the three riders behind Nibali. Pinot trails the leader by 7 minutes, 10 seconds. Peraud is 7:23 back, with Valverde two seconds slower.

Continued on Page 20

## OL' KING COLE



## Hamels bests Giants' Hudson in 2-1 win

Page 21

Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cole Hamels pitches during the third inning of a baseball game against the San Francisco Giants, Thursday, July 24, 2014, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press





## U.S. rebounds to win twice in International Crown

**OWINGS MILLS, Maryland (AP)** — The United States shuffled its lineup in the second round of the International Crown and got the desired result, beating Spain twice Friday to earn its first points in the eight-country competition.

Lexi Thompson and Cristie Kerr took control on the back nine against Belen Mozo and Beatriz Recari in a 3-and-2 win, and Paula Creamer and Stacy Lewis held on to beat Azahara Munoz and Carlota Ciganda 2 up.

One day earlier, the top-seeded U.S. lost twice to Taiwan and was the only country without a point. That caused Lewis to say: "Well, I guess we learned that those pairings didn't work very well."

Thus, the Americans traded partners Friday — and the new teams proved to be far more productive.

The Kerr-Thompson pairing won holes 10-12 to go 3 up, and Creamer-Lewis took the lead for good by winning No. 7 before adding to their advantage on Nos. 9 and 11.

Munoz and Ciganda got to 1 down heading to 18 before both landed shots in a bunker, and they ended up conceding the hole.



**Lexi Thompson, left, and Cristie Kerr celebrate after defeating Spain on the 16th hole during the second round of the International Crown golf tournament Friday, July 25, 2014, in Owings Mills, Md.**

**Associated Press**

Thailand leads Pool A with five points, followed by Taiwan and the U.S. with four points apiece and Spain with three.

Japan stands atop Pool B

with six points. South Korea has four points and Sweden and Australia each have three.

On Saturday in the final day of better-ball play, the United

States will face Thailand, and Spain will play Taiwan. In Pool B, Sweden will face Australia, and South Korea will play Japan.

The top two teams in each pool, along with the winner of a playoff between the third-place teams, will compete in singles matches Sunday for the inaugural International Crown title.

Thailand moved atop Pool A with a pair of wins over Taiwan, which wasn't able to sustain the momentum it generated with twin wins over the U.S. one day earlier.

Moriya Jutanugarn and younger sister Ariya Jutanugarn of Thailand teamed to beat Candie Kung and Teresa Lu 3 and 2. The Jutanugarns took the lead with birdies on the par-4 first and did not lose a hole all day. Thailand's other tandem, Pornanong Phatlum and Onnarin Sattayabanphot, beat Yani Tseng and Teresa Lu 1 up with a birdie on the 18th hole.

Next up for Thailand: The Americans.

"We're probably going to try to keep the same confidence like today, and then just go have fun," Sattayabanphot said. "Let's see how it goes."

In Pool B, Japan's Ai Miyazato and Sakura Yokoyama

rallied from six holes down with seven to play to halve with Katherine Kirk and Lindsey Wright of Australia. The comeback ended with Japan capturing the final three holes.

"It feels amazing right now," Miyazato said. "Until 12 holes, I and Sakura just felt like today was Australia's day. We tried to accept the results, and said that every extra hole is just a bonus."

Kirk said, "It hurts, obviously, but we can't change what happened. But we can certainly learn from it and certainly go out there (Saturday) and try to make amends."

The tide turned after the Australians were put on the clock on the 12th hole.

"We lost our timing and that was pretty much it," Wright said. "It was just awful."

Japan's other duo, Mamiko Higa and Mika Miyazato, beat 18-year-old amateur Minjee Lee and 40-year-old Karrie Webb 3 and 2.

In another matchup, Sweden split with South Korea. Caroline Hedwall and Anna Nordqvist beat South Korea's Inbee Park and So Yeon Ryu 1 up, and Na Yeon Choi teamed with I.K. Kim to edge Pernilla Linberg and Mikaela Parmlid 1 up. □

## Furyk, Petrovic, share Canadian Open lead

**MONTREAL (AP)** — Two-time winner Jim Furyk birdied two of his last four holes Friday in the Canadian Open to match the Royal Montreal single-round record at 7-under 63 and tie Tim Petrovic atop the leaderboard.

Furyk and Petrovic were both at 10-under 130 on the Blue Course.

"Winning any event is spe-

cial," said Furyk, who is coming off a fourth-place finish in the British Open. "I've had a lot of success (in Canada) and really a lot of support here. But we're only at the halfway point." Petrovic followed his opening 64 with a 66. He missed the cuts in his last five events.

"I have been hitting the ball really well for about the last

three weeks," Petrovic said. "I've seen signs of some good rounds coming. Am I surprised? Maybe a little." Canada's Graham DeLaet, playing in a threesome with Furyk and Matt Kuchar, was two strokes back, along with Kyle Stanley. DeLaet, trying to become the first Canadian winner in the event in 60 years, also had a 63 to match the course record. □



**Jim Furyk hits on the 14th hole at Canadian Open golf championship Friday, July 25, 2014 in Montreal.**

**Associated Press**





**TOUCHDOWN**  
SPORTS BAR & GRILL  
**UFC PRESENTS**

**SAT. JULY 26**  
**8:00 PM.**  
**5-ROUND WELTERWEIGHT BOUT**  
**LAWLER vs BROWN**

Come try out special menu!

Ask for our Special Beer Buckets Prices in the best Sportbar on the strip!

STARTING AT 8 PM AT TOUCHDOWN SPORTS BAR & GRILL, ARUBA LOCATED IN J.E. IRAUSQUIN BOULEVARD 370, FRONT OCCIDENTAL HOTEL AND UPSTAIRS FROM I LOVE ARUBA STORE. CALL 585 6020

## Garcia scores 2 goals, RSL beats Montreal 3-1

**SANDY, Utah (AP)** — Real Salt Lake moved up to outright second place in the MLS Western Conference by winning 3-1 at home against ten-man Montreal on Thursday. Olmes Garcia scored his first two goals of the season in the 70th minute and again in stoppage time to move Salt Lake within six points of conference-leading Seattle. The hosts opened the scoring in the third minute when Luke Mulholland hammered in a de-

flected corner. Montreal equalized when Hassoun Camara rolled the ball inside the far post in the 31st minute. Montreal's Issey Nakajima-Farran was shown a red card in the 65th minute after a studs-up tackle of Chris Schuler. Real Salt Lake capitalized five minutes later when Garcia headed home a cross from Javier Morales and the duo combined again deep into stoppage time. □



Montreal Impact's goalie Evan Bush (30) falls to the ground after Real Salt Lake's Olmes Garcia scores during the second half of an MLS soccer game Thursday, July 24, 2014, in Sandy, Utah. Associated Press



**20/20 Sunday!**

Join us today for a **Heatwave of Cash!**

*From 6pm to 10pm, we're giving away \$20 Cash to lucky Advantage Players every 20 minutes.*

**The Shops At Alhambra Casino**

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets, Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Baskin Robbins • Dunkin Donuts  
Fusion Piano & Wine Bar  
Juan Valdez Café • Subway • R-Glass  
Hungry Piranha • Intermezzo • The Salon  
Hollywood Smokehouse (opening soon)  
Aruba Aloe • Bijoux Turner Boutique  
Daher & Co • Diamonds International  
The Lazy Lizard • The Market

*Where Aruba goes to play!*

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • casinoalhambra.com

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

**Alhambra**  
CASINO AND SHOPS



# Nibali

Continued from Page 17

Pinot is considered the least skilled among the three in time trials.

"Tomorrow is the most important stage of the Tour," Pinot said. "I'll have to be strong."

Next in the standings is France's Romain Bardet, a teammate of Peraud's on the AG2R La Mondiale team. But he's more than two minutes behind Valverde and not considered strong in time trials. American Tejay van Garderen is regarded as strong, but he's another two minutes slower in sixth place — and erasing his four-minute deficit to join the podium contenders would be no small feat.

In reverse order of the standings, riders on Saturday set off one by one down the starter's ramp at several-minute intervals over more than six hours. Cheng Ji of Giant-Shimano, the first rider from China in the race, will go first. Nibali goes last.



Italy's Vincenzo Nibali, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, rides in the rain during the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 208.5 kilometers (129.6 miles) with start in Maubourguet and finish in Bergerac, France, Friday, July 25, 2014.

Associated Press

The not-quite flat and long course will require riders to muster all the strength they have left in legs that have suffered, strained and burned over three weeks — a trek that began in the hills and dales of Yorkshire, England, covered coarse cobblestones and ascended several mountain peaks.

"There's no real danger, it's

not too technical — it's really power that will matter," race director Thierry Gouvenou said, referring to the time trial. "There's just a little climb at the end, but after you've covered the Alps and the Pyrenees, it's really a little climb."

Three-time world time-trial champion Tony Martin of Germany is perhaps the favorite to win the stage, Gouvenou said, but "when

you reach this part of the Tour de France, it's really a question of freshness and what you have left in the tank."

Just as Italy is eager for its first Tour winner since Marco Pantani in 1998, many French fans are ebullient at the prospect that the first rider from the race's homeland will reach the podium for the first time since Richard Virenque in 1997.

Those two success stories, however, came at the height of cycling's doping scandal. Both riders were later sanctioned in connection with banned performance enhancers. Since then, with a crackdown on drugs cheats in place, the peloton has cleaned up considerably. Navardauskas rides for the Garmin-Sharp team, which has been among the most outspoken against doping. He led a late breakaway in a downpour to win the 208.5-kilometer (129.5-mile) stage from Maubourguet to Bergerac. He looked over his shoulder, kissed his fingers and raised his arms

in victory, with the pack barreling in behind him seven seconds later.

He became the first Lithuanian to win an individual stage in the Tour. In 2011, he was on the Garmin-Cervelo squad that won the team time trial at the Tour that year. He also won a stage in last year's Italian Giro. This victory by Garmin-Sharp — its first on this Tour — was a team effort. First, Dutch rider Tom-Jelte Slagter joined a five-man breakaway early on, then sped ahead alone. Alex Howes of the U.S. helped pull the Lithuanian up front before Navardauskas went solo with about 13 kilometers (8 miles) left.

"I gave it all. My teammates worked really hard for me," Navardauskas said. "I took a risk — you have to try — and it worked."

The performance eased some of the sting Garmin-Sharp has felt on the Tour. First, team leader Andrew Talansky of the U.S. pulled out before Stage 12, the pain from crashes proving too much. □

## Aruhiba Cigars, Aruba's only hand rolled cigars!

*It's a matter of prestige and quality...*

With the purchase of \$20 + up, present this ad and receive a FREE Aruhiba Cigar

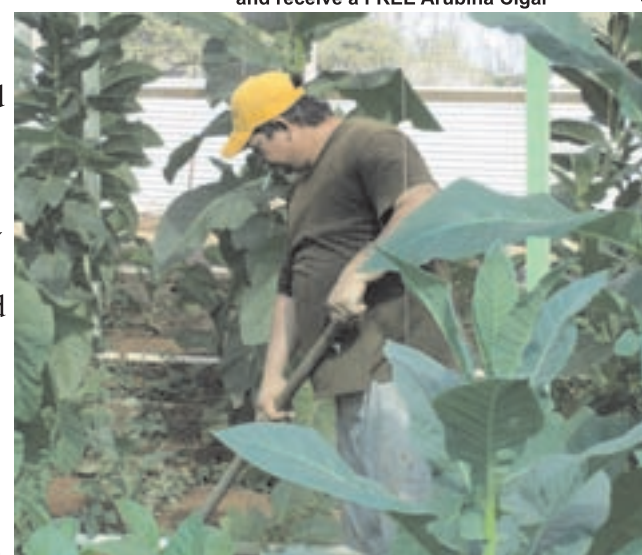


**ORANJESTAD-** Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also

available at their Tobacco farm where their cigars are grown and rolled. Winner of the best of Aruba. The best local product. Cigars in Tubes Arubian design.

For a group or private tour, call 586-07833 / 593 6177 or send them an email at [aruhibacigars@gmail.com](mailto:aruhibacigars@gmail.com) [www.arubahibacigars.com](http://www.arubahibacigars.com)



Owner Benjamin Petrocchi



## NL Capsules

## Hamels, Utley lead Phils over Giants 2-1

The Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Cole Hamels pitched eight strong innings and Chase Utley had a tiebreaking single in the fifth inning to lift the Phillies over the Giants. Hamels (5-5) got the better of Tim Hudson in a match-up between starters who have combined for seven All-Star appearances. The Philadelphia left-hander gave up six hits while striking out 10 and walking one.

Hudson (8-7) gave up two runs in six innings although both were unearned. The right-hander struck out six and walked two.

The Giants, who were looking for their first four-game sweep in Philadelphia since 1998, lost for just the second time in eight games.

MARLINS 3, BRAVES 2

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Jarrod Saltalamacchia drove in the go-ahead run in the ninth inning, Henderson Alvarez won for the first time in three starts and Miami beat Atlanta.

In taking three of four games, the Marlins won

just their second road series in the last 10 against the Braves.

Alvarez (7-5) gave up six hits, two runs and one walk with four strikeouts in eight innings. The Marlins are 13-3 in his last 16 starts.

Braves closer Craig Kimbrel (0-2), pitching in a non-save situation with the game tied 2-2 to begin the ninth, struck out Garrett Jones and had Marcell Ozuna struck out, too, but a wild pitch bounced away from catcher Evan Gattis. Ozuna advanced to second on another wild pitch and scored on the single to center.

Saltalamacchia went 3 for 4 with two doubles.

Steve Cishek earned his 24th save in 27 chances.

PADRES 13, CUBS 3

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Tyson Ross struck out a career-high 11, and light-hitting San Diego broke out for a season-best nine runs in the sixth inning in a rout of the Chicago Cubs.

Ross (9-10) allowed one run, five hits and one walk in six innings to reach a career high in wins. He went

3-2 in five July starts, but gave up just four earned runs in 35 innings.

Rene Rivera had three hits, including a home run, and drove in three runs. Will Venable had three hits and two RBIs, and Alexi Amarista and Chris Nelson also drove in two runs apiece with singles in the sixth-inning outburst that gave the Padres their highest scoring output this season.

San Diego led 3-1 entering the sixth, but after the first two Padres reached base, Cubs starter Edwin Jackson (5-11) was pulled because of cramping in his right hand.

The first nine Padres reached as San Diego, which carried an MLB-worst .215 batting average into the game, sent 15 men to the plate.

Chicago lost for the 13th time in 16 games.

BREWERS 9, METS 1

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Matt Garza allowed two hits over eight innings to rebound from a horrendous outing, and Ryan Braun hit one of three homers for Milwaukee in a victory over



Philadelphia Phillies' Ben Revere, right, scores a run on the hit by Chase Utley as San Francisco Giants catcher Buster Posey, left, looks back to the field during the fifth inning of a baseball game, Thursday, July 24, 2014, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

the New York Mets.

Jonathan Lucroy and Khris Davis also connected for the Brewers, who took a 6-0 lead after three innings against Dillon Gee (4-3) to

win their fourth consecutive game. Garza (7-7) gave up five runs in just one-third of an inning Saturday at Washington, the shortest start of his career. □

## Montoya back at Indy intent on winning for Penske

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — Juan Pablo Montoya is back at Indianapolis Motor Speedway - one night only, an encore of sorts, in a guest-starring role for Team Penske.

The Colombian is entered in the Brickyard 400 for the explicit purpose of winning at Indy in NASCAR and giving team owner Roger Penske one of the few trophies missing from his collection. Montoya is not looking for a good points day on Sunday and doesn't care about a top-10 finish.

It's checkered flag or bust. "With the position I'm in here, it's do or die," Montoya said Friday. "I don't care about finishing fifth or sixth or seventh."

Montoya left NASCAR at the end of last season, when his contract was not renewed by Chip Ganassi. He jumped to IndyCar to drive for Ganassi rival Penske, who has given Mon-

toya the opportunity to return to the Brickyard to get the win that got away.

Although he won the Indianapolis 500 in 2000, Montoya went 0-for-7 at Indy during his NASCAR days. But he was oh-so-close at least twice, and many believe Montoya coughed those wins away.

He led 116 laps in 2009 until a speeding penalty on his final pit stop cost him the win, and he was out front the next year with 20 laps remaining until an ill-timed caution ruined his day. Montoya went to pit road and got four tires while everyone else took two. Stuck deep in traffic with little time to make up the ground, he crashed and finished 32nd.

"Yeah, once or twice, and I probably coulda, shoulda and would've won the 500 this year as well," he said. "But coulda, woulda and should've doesn't count.



Driver Juan Pablo Montoya waits as the crew works on his car before practice for the Brickyard 400 Sprint Cup series auto race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, Friday, July 25, 2014.

Associated Press

At least I had a chance and I still think I've got a good chance this year."

Montoya was back at the Brickyard in May for the Indianapolis 500, where he was confident he had a shot at drinking the celebratory milk for the second time in his storied career. Although he led three

times for 16 laps, he finished a distant fifth as Penske teammate Helio Castroneves battled winner Ryan Hunter-Reay down to the wire. Now 14 races into his IndyCar return, Montoya has hit a groove and is beginning to resemble the driver who won the 1999 CART championship.

Since Indy, he's scored three podium finishes and won his first race since 2010 at Pocono.

He feels his results could be much better.

"I was talking the other day to my Indy car race engineers and said, 'It's a shame the 500 was the first race this year on an oval,'" Montoya said. "Now that I've raced more races, I look back on it and say, 'I should have put this much more front wing in, I should have done this and should have done that but didn't know what to expect.'"

Montoya doesn't have that problem at Indy, where he's familiar with the track and the car. Penske sent him to Michigan in June as a warm-up and he finished 18th, but used the opportunity to work with his pit crew for the first time and get accustomed to Penske drivers Joey Logano and Brad Keselowski. □



# Moss powers Athletics past Astros 13-1

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Brandon Moss hit a grand slam and the Oakland Athletics gave Jeff Samardzija more run support Thursday than he has had all season in a 13-1 victory over the Houston Astros.

Jed Lowrie had three hits and drove in a run for the A's, who have the best record (63-38) in baseball and are a season-best 25 games over .500.

Chris Carter hit a home run for the Astros, who fell to 2-4 since the All-Star Break. Samardzija (2-1) gave up a leadoff single to Jose Altuve and then retired 10 straight before Carter's 20th home run put Houston on the board. He did not walk a batter and struck out six.

Scott Feldman (4-8) lost his straight start, lasting 5 1-3 innings. He allowed six runs on nine hits, walking five and striking out four.

YANKEES 4, RANGERS 2  
NEW YORK (AP) — Brandon McCarthy threw six more solid innings, fellow newcomer Chase Headley delivered another timely hit and the Yankees beat the Rangers for their sixth win in seven games.

Brett Gardner doubled, scored a run and drove in one as the Yankees kept up their push since the All-Star break.

Texas fell to 3-17 in July and dropped 22 games under



Oakland Athletics' Brandon Moss, right, swings for a grand slam off Houston Astros' Anthony Bass in the sixth inning of a baseball game on Thursday, July 24, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

.500 for the first time since the final week of the 1988 season.

McCarthy improved to 2-0 with a 1.45 ERA in three starts since the Yankees got him in a deal with Arizona earlier this month.

Colby Lewis (6-8) gave up three runs and four hits in 6 1-3 innings.

BLUE JAYS 8, RED SOX 0

TORONTO (AP) — Marcus Stroman and two relievers combined on a one-hitter, Juan Francisco drove in four runs and came within a double of the cycle and the Blue Jays shut out the

Red Sox.

Stroman's no-hit bid ended when Shane Victorino blooped a single to center to lead off the seventh. One out later, Victorino was erased on Mike Napoli's double-play grounder. Stroman (6-2) only allowed two other baserunners on walks and struck out seven in seven innings. The rookie right-hander is 5-1 with an 1.54 ERA in seven home starts.

Todd Redmond worked the eighth and Rob Rasmussen finished.

Red Sox right-hander Rub-

by De La Rosa (3-3) allowed seven runs, six earned, in a season-low four-plus innings, raising his ERA from 2.64 to 3.54.

WHITE SOX 5, TWINS 2  
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Hector Noesi allowed three hits over 7 2-3 innings and Adam Eaton had three hits and two RBIs to lead the Chicago White Sox over Minnesota.

Noesi (5-7) gave up two runs, struck out three and walked one. Alexei Ramirez added two hits and an RBI for Chicago and Jake Petricka went one inning

to earn his fifth save in six chances.

Phil Hughes (10-7) gave up two runs and four hits and struck out four for the Twins. But he left the game with a right shin contusion in the fourth inning when he was hit by a chopper off the bat of Adam Dunn.

Danny Santana hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning for the Twins.

ROYALS 2, INDIANS 1, 14 innings

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Nori Aoki singled home Lorenzo Cain in the 14th inning to lift Kansas City over Cleveland after Indians starter Corey Kluber carried a perfect game into the seventh inning.

Aaron Crow (5-1), the seventh Kansas City pitcher, earned the victory — striking out the side in a perfect 14th.

Marc Rzepczynski (0-3) took the loss.

Kluber held the Royals to two hits, retiring the first 19 batters he faced before Omar Infante lined a single to center.

Mike Moustakas doubled and scored on a throwing error by left fielder Ryan Raburn in the eighth inning to give the Royals a 1-0 lead.

The Indians tied it in the ninth off Greg Holland, who blew his second save in 28 chances. Yan Gomes' two-out single scored Carlos Santana. □



Robin Haase of the Netherlands celebrates his victory against Mikhail Youzhny of Russia during the quarterfinal match at the Swiss Open tennis tournament in Gstaad, Switzerland, Friday, July 25, 2014. Associated Press

GSTAAD, Switzerland (AP)

— Robin Haase advanced to the semifinals of the Swiss Open by beating defending champion Mikhail You-

zhny 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 Friday in a rematch of last year's final. The top-seeded Russian saved six match points in the final game before final-

## Robin Haase beats defending champ Youzhny at Swiss Open

ly losing.

Haase, a Dutchman seeded seventh, will play Juan Monaco in Saturday's semifinals.

Monaco beat two-time champion Thomaz Bellucci of Brazil 7-6 (1), 6-1.

In a match held over from Thursday, fourth-seeded Fernando Verdasco of Spain completed a 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3) win over Jan-Lennard Struff of Germany.

Verdasco returned on court later to beat Viktor Troicki of Serbia 6-4, 6-7 (7), 6-1 in the last quarterfinal

match.

Verdasco set up an all-Spanish semifinal against Pablo Andujar, who beat another Spaniard, second-seeded Marcel Granollers, 7-5, 6-3.q

Top-seeded Isner reaches Atlanta Open semifinals  
ATLANTA (AP) — Defending champion John Isner overcame a slow start Friday to advance to the Atlanta Open semifinals, beating Australia's Marinko Matosevic 7-6 (8), 6-4.

Isner's service game was off as Matosevic broke the

American in the first game of the match, and the top-seeded

American had to fight off break points in his second and third service games to make the semifinals for a fifth straight year.

He was helped, too, by Matosevic's six double faults.

Isner won the event last year after falling in the 2010 and '11 finals to Mardy Fish. Isner next plays the winner of Friday night's other quarterfinal between American Jack Sock and Slovakia's Lukas Lacko. □



# Review: Amazon Fire offers new ways to use phones

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — What I find fascinating about Amazon's Fire phone isn't the gizmos such as the 3-D imagery or the camera scanner that helps you get more information about products. Rather, I like that Amazon is thinking a lot about how phones ought to work. The iPhone and its Android smartphone rivals are so much alike that companies have been suing each other for stealing ideas. The Fire phone uses Android, but Amazon has modified it to the point that it's barely recognizable.

That means the phone offers new ways to navigate, discover and, of course, shop — all enabled by new features from the world's largest online retailer.

That doesn't mean everyone should rush out to get a Fire phone.

Many apps available for iPhones, Android and even Windows phones aren't available for the Fire yet. Some features didn't work as well as I anticipated. I couldn't use the Fire's Siri-like voice search to get weather or directions, for instance. And when I used Amazon's Maps app to get directions to the U.S. Capitol, I got the town of Capitol, Montana. Talk about getting lost.

Amazon may fix some of these issues by the time the phone ships Thursday, and other fixes will likely come through future software updates, but consider that it took Amazon's tablet computer two years to become a strong contender to Apple's iPad.

The Fire has a 13-megapixel camera and a screen that measures 4.7 inches diagonally, a comfortable size for one-handed use.

It's available in the U.S. through AT&T starting at \$200 with a two-year contract and \$650 without one. That's on par with other high-end phones, plus you get double the storage and a free year of Amazon's Prime membership with Fire. Still, Amazon.com Inc. has typically undercut rivals on just about anything else sold on this

planet.

Price parity could make it tough for Amazon to compete in a crowded smartphone market, despite these features:

— Dynamic Perspective.

Using four infrared cameras, the phone gauges where your head is and redraws images on the screen continually so they appear 3-D.

Beyond aesthetics, the technology lets you tilt the phone slightly for more information, such as Yelp ratings on nearby restaurants. If the information is covering up, say, a street name on a map, just tilt it away.

With tilts, you can scroll down as you read news articles or switch between the front and back of dresses when shopping. You can control game characters without touching the screen. Swivel the phone as though you're turning a doorknob to unveil a menu of options or supplemental information such as song lyrics.

Developers of non-Amazon apps will have to enable the feature, so with eBay's shopping app, you still need to swipe to see the other side of a dress.

The gestures also take getting used to. I got frustrated when the swivels didn't work; turned out my motion was too slow. And in testing out the gestures, I somehow placed separate orders for a \$109 camera and a \$150 hard drive accessory, thanks to a one-click shopping feature. It took an hour to notice the first errant order. Fortunately, I was able to cancel both in time.

— Firefly.

A side button launches the Firefly scanning app, which recognizes bar codes, business cards and various products. Firefly also recognizes sound, including songs and scenes in movies and TV shows.

Once there's a match, you can swivel the phone to buy an item through Amazon, add a phone number to your contacts app or learn more about a movie through Amazon's IMDb.

I found only four non-Amazon apps that have en-



This June 18, 2014 file photo shows the app that links to shopping on Amazon.com on the new Amazon Fire Phone, in Seattle. Associated Press

abled Firefly. So after scanning the movie poster for "Stranger by the Lake," I could launch the Flixster app for more information, but I couldn't go directly to Netflix because that app hasn't enabled the feature yet.

Firefly is more comprehensive and reliable than other scanning apps I've tried. I was surprised it managed to identify the model of the landline phone on my desk. For magazines, it identified specific issues, not just the title. But there are still mistakes, such as my laptop's keyboard being identified

as headphone amplifiers. — Mayday help.

Introduced with the Kindle Fire HDX tablets last fall, Mayday provides live technical support around the clock. The tech adviser who appears on your phone can hear you, see your screen and draw marks to show you where to press or swipe.

This feature works well on the tablet, but as helpful as the advisers try to be, they are still getting used to the phone. One directed me to Apple's support forums to figure out how to transfer iPhone contacts even

though Amazon's website had step-by-step instructions. The advisers are also learning how to guide you on tilting or swiveling.

Once these are worked out, though, it should reduce requests for help you get from tech-challenged friends.

— The carousel.

Most phones have home pages filled with icons to various apps. The Fire shows just one at a time, based on what you've recently done. Swipe left or right to get the others. These icons do more than take you to apps. □

## Cellphone unlocking set to become legal again

By PETER SVENSSON  
AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Congress passed a bill Friday that makes it legal to "unlock" cellphones so the devices can — at least in some instances — be used on other carriers.

The law, which President Obama said he looks forward to signing, undoes a move by the Librarian of Congress in 2012. That made it a copyright violation to unlock a phone without the carrier's permission.

The law passed Friday by

the House of Representatives makes it legal to unlock phones for personal use, at least until the Librarian's next round of rulemaking, next year. The measure was passed earlier by the Senate.

Unlocking typically involves entering codes on the phone. In more difficult cases, the phone needs to be hooked up to a computer to have new software installed.

Carriers have, in some instances, sued people who made a business out of unlocking phones and re-

selling them, but individuals unlocking for personal use have never been pursued.

Carriers have become more lenient in their unlocking policies in recent years. Verizon, for instance, ships most of its phones unlocked. However, technical differences mean that it's often difficult to move a phone from one network to another, and if you can make the move, phone functions are impaired. The easiest move is between AT&T and T-Mobile US. □



## Worries about US consumers drag stocks lower

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Investors got some bad news about the American shopper on Friday, driving down stocks and sending the Dow Jones industrial average to a loss for the week.

Two major U.S. companies — the retail giant Amazon and the credit card processor Visa — both said that the second half of the year was looking more troubled than originally expected. The cautious outlook from two companies so heavily exposed to consumer spending spooked investors, causing the stock market to fall at the open and remain lower throughout the day.

"Visa put a lot of caution into the market this morning," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential Financial.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 123.23 points, or 0.7 percent, to 16,960.57. It's the first time the Dow has closed below the psychologically notable 17,000-point mark since July 9.

The Standard & Poor's 500 fell 9.64 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,978.34 and the Nasdaq composite fell 22.54 points, or 0.5 percent, to 4,449.56.

With Friday's selling, the Dow fell 0.8 percent this week. The S&P 500 closed basically unchanged and

the Nasdaq rose 0.4 percent this week.

Visa was the biggest decliner among the blue chips, falling \$7.97, or 3.6 percent, to \$214.77. The credit card processor reported an 11 percent rise in quarterly profit but cut its full-year forecast on concerns about growth overseas.

Because the Dow is a

use Visa's payment system are in nearly person's pocket, and each time a consumer buys a product with a Visa card the company takes a small percentage.

To see Visa give a cautious outlook is worrisome, Krosby said.

"Visa represents the consumer and the consumer is one of the most important

cast, hit by expenses. The Seattle-based company is focused on spending the money it makes to expand into new areas and products, including a smartphone, the Fire, which starts selling Friday.

Amazon fell \$36.60 to close at \$324.01, the biggest decliner in the S&P 500 index. Investors retreated from riskier stocks and moved



**This photo shows Amazon.com boxes in Phoenix. Amazon reported quarterly financial results on Thursday, July 24, 2014, cautioning the second half of 2014 was looking more troubled than originally expected.**

**(AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin)**

price-weighted index, and Visa is the most expensive stock in the Dow, Visa was having an outsized impact on it. Roughly 60 points of the Dow's decline can be attributed to Visa.

Investors have closely watched Visa ever since the company went public in 2008. Credit cards that

pieces for the future of this economic recovery," she said.

Amazon's quarterly results didn't help boost investor sentiment either.

Amazon's stock slumped 10 percent after the online retail giant late Thursday posted a much wider loss than analysts had fore-

into traditional havens at times of uncertainty: bonds and gold. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note eased to 2.47 percent from 2.50 percent late Thursday as demand for the government bond rose. Gold climbed \$12.50, or 1 percent, to \$1,303.30 an ounce. □

## Goldman Sachs names Ogunlesi as lead director

**WILLIAM ALDEN**

**© 2014 New York Times News Service**

James J. Schiro, the lead director of Goldman Sachs, has retired from the board of the Wall Street bank to undergo medical treatment.

Goldman, which announced the change late Thursday, said Schiro had received a diagnosis of multiple myeloma, a cancer of the plasma cells. The bank said he would be succeeded as lead director by another board member, Adebayo O. Ogunlesi.

"Jim has been an exemplary board member who made outstanding contributions to our firm and our shareholders," Lloyd C. Blankfein, the chairman and chief executive of Goldman, said in a statement. "We benefited from his wise counsel and probing questions, and admired his graciousness and professionalism. Jim is in our thoughts and we wish him and his family all the best."

Ogunlesi, who joined the board in 2012, is the managing partner and chairman of Global Infrastructure Partners, a private equity firm that invests in infrastructure. He was previously an executive at Credit Suisse and a lawyer at Cravath, Swaine & Moore. In addition to serving as lead director of Goldman, he will become head of the corporate governance committee.

Schiro, a former chief executive of Zurich Financial Services and PricewaterhouseCoopers, was appointed lead director of Goldman in 2012, providing a counterweight to Blankfein. Shareholders had pressured the bank to create the lead director role because of Blankfein's dual role as chairman and chief executive. Schiro, a director since 2009, was also named head of the board's corporate governance, nominating and public responsibilities committee. Last year, after a deal with a group that advises union pension funds, Goldman expanded the powers of the lead director to include setting the agenda for the board, rather than merely approving it. □

## Citigroup unit paying \$5M to settle SEC charges

**WASHINGTON (AP)** A market trading unit of Citigroup will pay \$5 million to settle federal civil charges that it failed to protect the confidentiality of customer trading data.

The Securities and Exchange Commission announced the settlement with Citigroup's LavaFlow Inc. on Friday. It operates a so-called alternative trading system, which makes stock trades for brokerage firms and other traders. The settlement includes a \$2.85 million penalty, the largest the SEC has imposed on an alternative trading system. The company will also return \$1.8 million in profits

and \$350,000 in interest. LavaFlow, based in New York, neither admitted nor denied the allegations.

"We are pleased to put this matter behind us," Citigroup Inc. said in a statement.

The SEC said LavaFlow improperly allowed an affiliate to gain access to and use confidential information on customer trading orders from 2008 through 2011. About 400 million shares were traded during that period using the affiliate's technology, according to the SEC.

Alternative trading systems, which compete with public stock exchanges,

now account for about 12 percent of U.S. stock market trading. LavaFlow is among the 10 biggest systems, according to industry regulators.

LavaFlow's system is an electronic communications network, which displays some order information such as best bid or offer.

Another type of alternative trading system, known as a "dark pool," doesn't show such information. Last month the SEC reached a \$2 million settlement with Liquidnet Inc., which operates a dark pool system, for allegedly using customers' confidential trading data

to market its services. Liquidnet also didn't admit or deny wrongdoing.

The SEC has put high-speed electronic trading and alternative trading systems under close scrutiny as they continue to play an increasing role in the market. SEC officials also have said the agency is seriously pursuing violations of market conduct rules.

SEC Chair Mary Jo White recently outlined new proposed rules intended to bolster market stability and fairness for investors. They include a measure to curb aggressive short-term trading tactics when the market is especially volatile. □



# RBS profit beats expectations for second-quarter

CHAD BRAY

© 2014 New York Times

**LONDON** - Royal Bank of Scotland said Friday that its second-quarter pretax profit nearly doubled as the bank benefited from a decline in loan impairments. The results were better than expected and prompted the bank to issue them a week early. But the bank, which is based in Edinburgh, warned that litigation and other legacy issues could drag down its results in future quarters. On a pretax

basis, the bank, which is 81 percent owned by the British government, posted a profit of 1.01 billion pounds for the second quarter ended June 30, compared with 548 million pounds in the second quarter of 2013. The bank said its preliminary net profit was 230 million pounds (\$391 million). That compares with a profit of 142 million pounds in the same period last year. RBS said it announced its results early because the results were significantly better than the market was an-

ticipating. The lender plans to release its full results on Aug. 1.

In the quarter, RBS was able to release 93 million pounds that it had set aside for bad loans. In the same quarter last year, the company posted loan impairments of 1.12 billion pounds. "Let me sound a note of caution," Ross McEwan, the RBS chief executive, said in a statement. "We are actively managing down a slate of significant legacy issues. This includes significant conduct and litigation

issues that will hit our profits in the months and years to come. I'm pleased we've had two good quarters, but no one should get ahead of themselves here - there are bumps in the road ahead of us." In the second quarter, the company recorded litigation and conduct costs of 250 million pounds, including a 150 million pounds provision related to payment protection insurance. The company said it expected higher litigation and conduct costs in the

coming year.

Net interest income - the measure of what a bank earns on its lending after deducting what it pays out on deposits and other liabilities - rose slightly to 2.79 billion pounds in the second quarter. Overall, revenue was down 10 percent to 4.92 billion pounds. Operating expenses were up about 9 percent in the quarter to 3.7 billion pounds, and the bank said that it remained on track to reduce its costs by 1 billion pounds this year. □

# BSkyB to create multinational European TV network

GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — London-based pay TV network BSkyB has agreed to take control of its sister companies in Italy and Germany, creating a multinational European broadcaster. The deal could have a wider impact on the media industry, giving Rupert Murdoch's 21st Century Fox a cash boost to potentially revive its attempt to buy Time Warner.

BSkyB said Friday it will buy Sky Italia and 57 percent of Sky Deutschland for 5.35 billion pounds (\$9.1 billion) from media giant 21st Century Fox. Besides being chairman and CEO of 21st Century Fox, Murdoch is also BSkyB's largest shareholder with a stake of just over 39 percent.

BSkyB said the deal would create a pay TV provider with 20 million customers across three of Europe's four biggest markets.

Media analyst Claire Enders said the deal shows BSkyB is moving to build business outside its base in Britain and moving beyond direct local competition with BT.

"It's now focused on transporting its technology and its production skills into other markets where there is demand for cutting edge TV," she said. "They believe this phenomenon will come to other

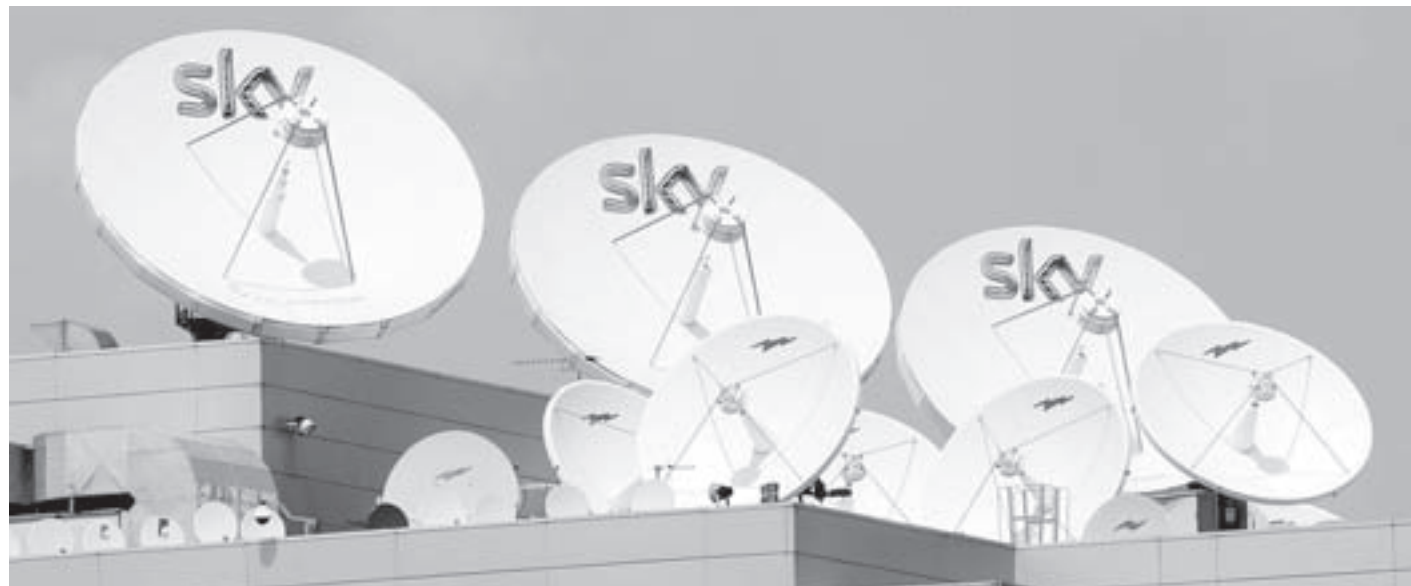
countries in Europe, particularly Italy." She said she did not anticipate regulatory obstacles.

James Murdoch, Rupert's son and co-chief operating officer of 21st Century Fox, said the combination of European Sky companies

lion pounds for Sky Italia and 2.9 billion pounds for its stake in Sky Deutschland. 21st Century Fox would receive cash payments of 4.9 billion pounds and BSkyB would also transfer its 21 percent stake in the National Geograph-

cash from the European TV deal to help fund its pursuit of Time Warner after the recent failure of an \$80 billion offer.

That bid was partly meant to counter consolidation among U.S. TV distributors like Comcast-Time



Satellite antennas stand on the roof of Sky Italia pay TV headquarters in Milan, Italy, Friday, July 25, 2014. London-based pay TV network BSkyB has agreed to take control of its sister companies in Italy and Germany, creating a multinational European broadcaster. (AP Photo/Luca Bruno)

would create "enormous benefits for the combined business and for our shareholders."

Shareholders in BSkyB did not seem excited by the details of the deal, however, pushing the company's share price down 5 percent in London.

BSkyB said it was paying 2.45 bil-

lion pounds for Sky Italia and 2.9 billion pounds for its stake in Sky Deutschland. 21st Century Fox would receive cash payments of 4.9 billion pounds and BSkyB would also transfer its 21 percent stake in the National Geograph-

ic Channel. The company said it would make a voluntary cash offer to Sky Deutschland's minority shareholders at 6.75 euros (\$9) per share.

Analysts note 21st Century Fox, which has a strong presence in cable, broadcast, film, pay TV and other fields, could use the

Warner Cable and AT&T-DirecTV. Time Warner owns TV channels CNN, TNT and TBS, along with the Warner Bros. movie studio, which includes Batman, Superman and Harry Potter. Fox owns the 20th Century Fox movie studio, the Fox broadcast network and such TV channels as Fox News and FX. □

# China pork giant WH Group makes 2nd IPO attempt

**HONG KONG (AP)** — Chinese pork giant WH Group is taking a second run at going public with a scaled-back share offering after abandoning its first IPO attempt because of sagging investor demand.

The company, which bought U.S. producer

Smithfield Foods last year, said Friday it would sell 2.6 billion shares at 6.20 Hong Kong dollars (80 cents) each. The deal would raise HK\$15.9 billion (\$2 billion). WH Group originally planned to raise more than double that amount earlier this year but inves-

tors were turned off at a time when financial markets were turbulent.

Previously known as Shuanghui International, the company became the world's biggest pork producer after buying Smithfield. The deal turned it into a global butcher that

can source cheaper hogs in the United States to feed strong demand in China, where pork is a staple meat.

WH Group also acquired the Smithfield, Virginia-based company's brands, which include Armour, Farmland and its name-

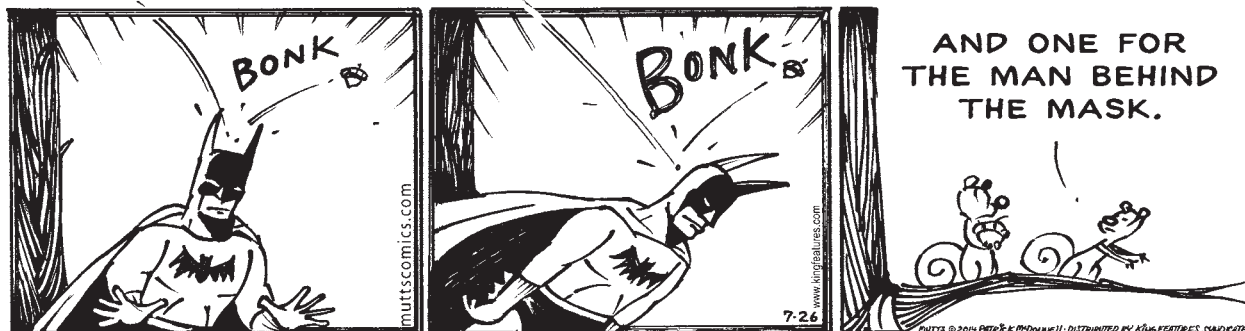
sake.

The Chinese company had planned to use the money from the IPO to help pay for the Smithfield acquisition, which was valued at \$7.1 billion including debt.

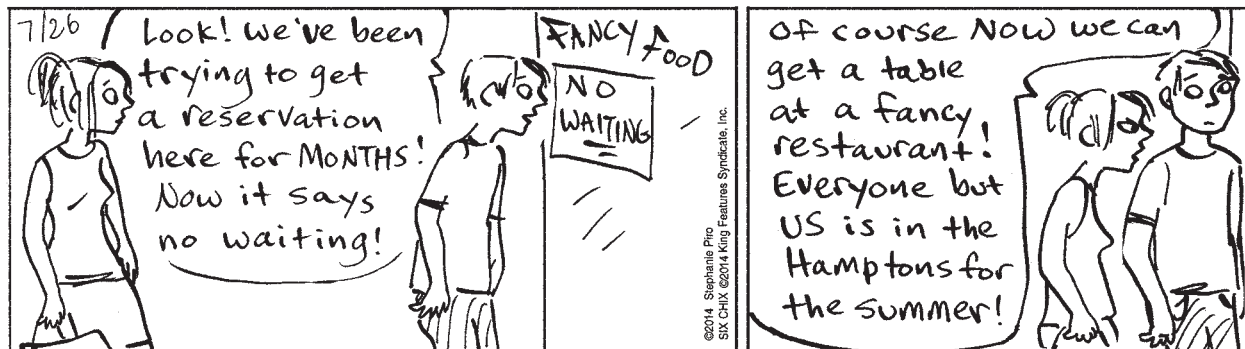
Shares are scheduled to start trading Aug. 5. □



## Mutts



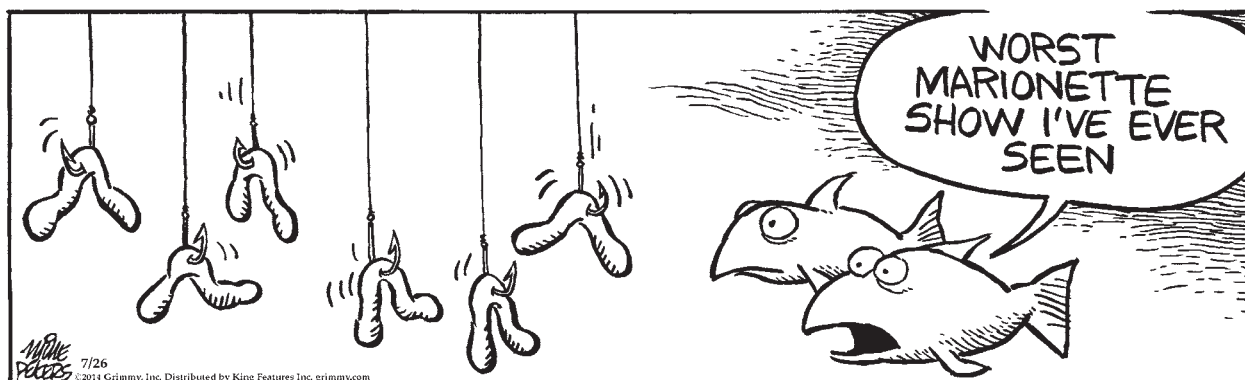
## 6 Chix



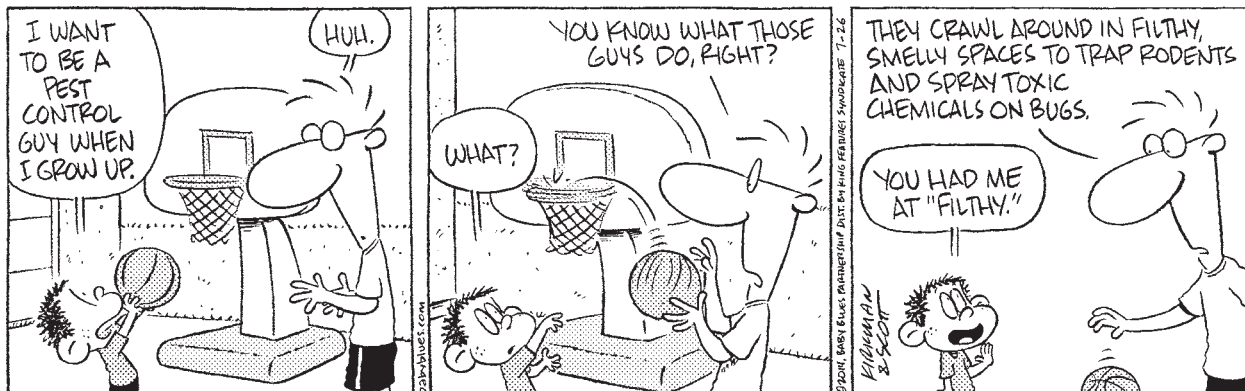
## Blondie



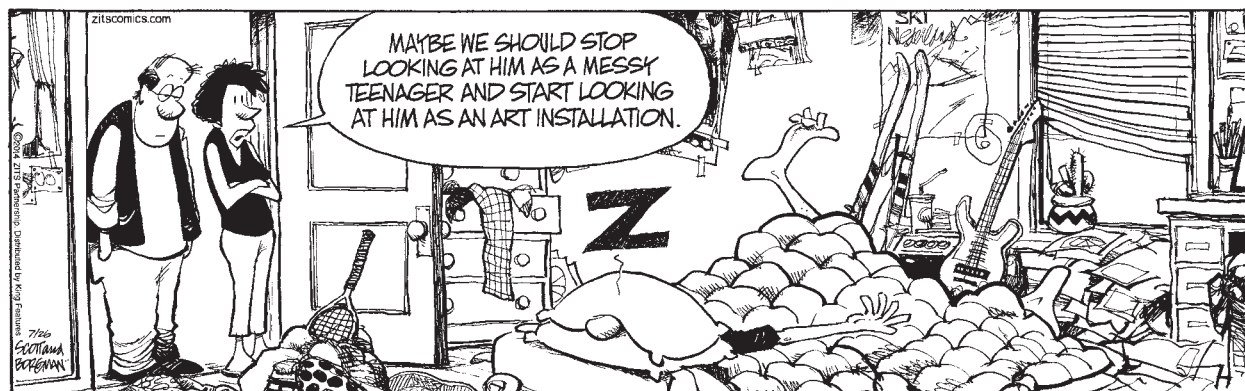
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

	4			3				
			8		2			4
		6				9		
	7		3		1		6	
2								9
	5		6		7		8	
		1				2		
8			4		5			
				7			4	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

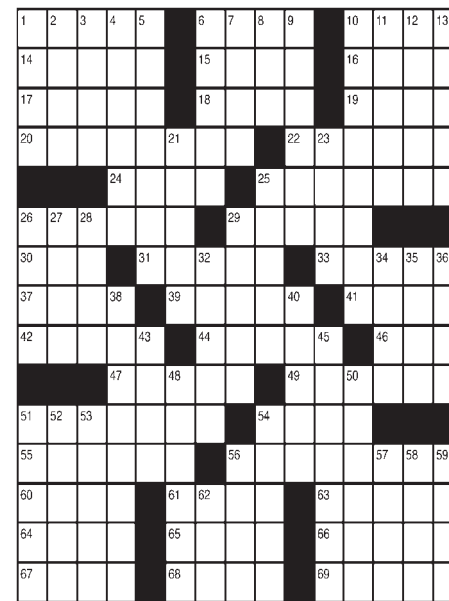
7	9	3	5	8	4	2	1	6
2	6	5	1	7	3	8	9	4
1	4	8	6	9	2	7	5	3
8	3	2	7	5	9	4	6	1
4	7	9	2	6	1	3	8	5
6	5	1	4	3	8	9	2	7
9	1	7	8	4	5	6	3	2
5	8	4	3	2	6	1	7	9
3	2	6	9	1	7	5	4	8

### ACROSS

- Relocated
- Close noisily
- Clenched hand
- Can't \_\_; find intolerable
- Tardy
- Vanished \_\_ thin air
- Do one's \_\_ duty; vote, e.g.
- Elderly
- Shine
- Train depots
- Cling; stick
- Fail to include
- Sound of noisy plate stackers
- Singular's opposite, in a grammar book
- Supermarket walkway
- Breather's need
- Minimum
- Build
- Hangs limply
- Ceremonies
- Store event
- \_\_ on; trample
- Itemizes in a vertical column
- Light source
- Skinflint
- Joyous
- Modified
- Emulates
- \_\_ in; brought under control
- Lent a hand to
- Capitol's roof, usually
- Part of the foot
- Too flamboyant
- Singles
- Subdue
- Metal piece for a door hanger
- Communists
- Sees
- Kills

### DOWN

- Raincoats, in London
- Death notice, for short
- Paper towel brand
- Newspaper bigwig
- Numerical dot
- Bias; leaning
- Can't keep up
- Dined
- Religious jewelry items
- Combatants
- Creek
- Market
- Pisan tourist attraction
- Refueling ship
- Valley
- Refers to
- One of the three tenses
- Dishonest one
- Egg on
- Up and about
- Had a bug
- Vane direction
- Helpful hint
- Take care of
- Monotony
- Ladder rungs
- Urgent
- Vehicles for Santa & others
- Put to sleep
- Attack violently
- Passion
- Sierra \_\_; African nation
- Two-\_\_; was unfaithful to one's lover
- Blaze residue
- High point
- Fish usually bought in a can
- Nervous
- Recolors
- Actor Romano



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/26/14

### Friday's Puzzle Solved

A	P	E		C	U	L	P	A		S	O	C	K
L	E	A	D		A	B	O	U	T		A	X	L
L	A	C	E		R	O	O	S	T		L	E	A
L	H	A	S	A	A	P	S	O			A	N	N
					L	I	F	T			R	A	M
S	E	R	E	N	E		P	E	N	S	I	O	N
C	L	A	R	K		P	O	R	E	S		C	O
R	A	G	S		S	O	R	R		C	H	O	W
A	T	E		S	L	O	T	S		G	E	E	S
P	E	D	D	L	E	R	S		S	E	A	R	E
				A	Y	E		S	P	A	S		
W	A	R	N		P	R	I	M	A	R	I	L	Y
A	L	E	C		E	I	D	E	R		N	O	O
I	S	L	E		R	O	L	L	S		G	A	G
T	O	Y	S		S	T	Y	L	E		D	A	B

(c) 2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

7/26/14



## Russian execs

*Continued from Page 12*

When the Malaysian airliner went down one day later, investors worried conditions would deteriorate further. The stock market has fallen over 6 percent since Thursday last week. Investors keep pulling money out of the country. They withdrew \$74.6 billion in the first six months of the year, a figure forecast to reach \$100 billion for the whole of 2014 — almost twice the \$60 billion in withdrawals seen last year.

Growth, meanwhile, is nose-diving. The International Monetary Fund this week slashed its forecast for 2014 from 1.3 percent to 0.2 percent. And the currency is unstable — Russia's central bank on Friday raised its key interest rate by half a point to 8 percent, saying the heightened geopolitical risks are putting pressure on the ruble. Even the world of sports has been drawn in. FIFA, the governing body for world soccer, faced calls from German lawmakers to move the 2018 World Cup from Russia, but swiftly rejected the notion.

EU countries, meanwhile, are stepping up the pressure. On Friday they reached a preliminary agreement to follow the U.S. in sanctioning businesses. Officials said the deal, which has yet to be finalized, would limit trade in key sectors like defense and technology. It would also restrict access to European capital markets

for Russian state-owned financial groups. Last year alone, 47 percent — or 7.5 billion euros (\$10.2 billion) — of all the bonds issued by such institutions came from EU markets.

Despite all this, there is little public criticism in Russia — none at all from those with the most at stake, the oligarchs.

Russia's biggest companies denied comment for this story. One spokesman said he was not authorized even to say a "no comment" for an article about sanctions.

A person who had close ties to the government until last year told The Associated Press that it is "too risky to express concerns in public and even in closed-door meetings with Putin." The person, who spoke only on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution, said tycoons usually express their concerns to government officials who in turn communicate them to the president. That silence has been a hallmark of Putin's rule. In the early 2000s, he forged a deal with Russian businessmen in which the Kremlin offered its protection for the often murky deals that created the oligarchs' fortunes. In return, the tycoons promised to not meddle in government policy. The only man who broke this rule — Mikhail Khodorkovsky, once Russia's richest man — was punished with two sets of charges and spent 10 years in prison before he was pardoned by Putin a month before the showcase Winter Olympics held in Russia. □

# Classifieds



### Marriott Aruba Surf Club

GOLD Season  
Oceanside \$9900  
Oceanview \$9k  
Oceanfront \$17k  
3 BEDRM OV \$17k  
PLATINUM Season  
Oceanview \$16k  
Oceanside \$17500  
Oceanfront \$27,500  
3 BEDRM OV \$27k  
Plat. Plus Holiday 51  
OV \$46k  
Plat. Plus NY 52 OV  
\$49k

### Marriott Aruba Ocean club

GOLD Season  
2B Ocean view \$9k  
2B Oceanfront \$14500  
1B Oceanfront \$8500  
PLATINUM Season  
2B oceanview \$18500  
2B Oceanfront \$29k  
1B Oceanview \$11500  
\*\*Destination points  
available between \$6.5  
and \$7.5 per point.

### We are the #1 Rental Timeshare agent for Aruba!

We also RENT Aruba  
weeks for owners.  
Contact us to BUY,  
SELL or RENT any

**888-888-2204 Ext 111**  
**321-206-6293 Ext 111**  
**321-250-7164 Fax**

FaxWebsite:  
[www.concierge Realty.com](http://www.concierge Realty.com)



### TIMESHARE FOR SALE

wk 9 Casa del Mar  
1 br, unit 1326 start 7/19, \$2400  
and wk 33 start 8/16 1 br  
unit 1435 \$2200  
**Aruba Beach Club** wk 32  
start 8/9 superior rm 234 \$2975  
**Paradise Villas** 1 br unit 310,  
\$2300 8/9 start wk 32  
e-mail [rmwjmw@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmw@aol.com) or  
US 508 651 0016

202327

### TIERRA DEL SOL APARTMENTS FOR SALE

Luxury floor, 159 m2, with 3  
bedrooms, 2 ½ bathrooms,  
luxury kitchen and breakfast  
bar, air conditioned, living room  
and dining room, fully furnished  
and large terrace, pool and  
garage. Las Palmas 23B  
contact (297) 586 1010

202345

### PARADISE UPHOLSTERY

We upholster and treat all kind of  
furniture.  
With big variety of fabrics and we  
repair bamboo & ratan, we sell all  
matras and boxspring sizes,  
Tel. 593-2655 / 742-5853,  
Palm Beach #5, In front of Subway

202312

### TIME SHARE RE-SALES La Cabana BRC

1 bedroom week 29  
room #140-C. Saturday check  
in ground floor at the pool  
price: \$6500  
Call: (297) 747 3602  
we sell, we rent, and we buy  
house and timeshare  
[info@arubatimetravel.com](mailto:info@arubatimetravel.com)  
[www.arubatimetravel.com](http://www.arubatimetravel.com)

202403

### VACATION SPECIAL

**last minute Aruba Beach Club**  
week 30 July 26-Aug 2 -4p  
1 bedroom \$600  
week 31 Aug 2-9  
2 bedr / 2 bath 6p \$1100  
wk 32 Aug 9-16  
1 bdr \$800 5p  
Tel. 583-4403 / 5603297

2024038



## DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad



July 26 Dr. Horenbeeck  
July 27 Dr. Alvarez

## EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

## PHARMACY

Oranjestad: Central Tel: 585-8077  
San Nicolas: Aloe Tel: 584-4606

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

## CRUISESHIP

July 28  
**Monarch**  
**MSC Divina**



Aruba Airport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

## FOUNDATION

### FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440  
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,  
Anonymity guaranteed

## FUNDACION

### Anti-Droga

Aruba  
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

## FUNDACION

### Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

### Diabetic Foundation

Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

### Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

### Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 / 586-6976

### Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

### Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

**TODAY**  
ARUBA'S ENGLISH NEWS LEADER AND THE BEST PART OF YOUR DAY!

**BONDIA**  
FORUM, OPEN AND SHINE

## How to reach us!

**Downtown**



# Cuba looks to mangroves to fend off rising seas

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

**SURGIDERO DE BATABANO, Cuba. (AP)**—Many people

in this hamlet on the southern coast of Cuba remember when the shore lay about 100 meters (yards) farther out. That was four decades ago.

Since then, rising waters have gradually swallowed up rustic homes, a narrow highway that once paralleled the coast, even an old military tank that people now use to measure the sea's yearly advance.

"There was a road there," said Jose Manuel Herrera, 42, a fisherman and former charcoal harvester, pointing toward the gentle waves. "You could travel from here all the way to Mayabeque."

Worried by forecasts of rising seas from climate change, the effects of hurricanes and the salinization of farmlands, authorities say they are beginning a forced march to repair Cuba's first line of defense against the advancing waters — its mangrove thickets, which have been damaged by decades of neglect and uncontrolled logging.

In the second half of 2013, a moratorium was declared on mangrove logging. Now, the final touches are being put on a sustainable management master plan that is expected to be in place before the end of the year. President Raul Castro has said the plan is a top priority.

What makes the effort vital and closely monitored by environmentalists is that Cuba is one of the few places left in the Caribbean with extensive



In this July 2, 2014, photo, government forest scientist Reynier Samon shows a sprouting mangrove in Batabano, Cuba.

Associated Press



In this July 2, 2014, photo, government forest scientist Reynier Samon plants a mangrove seed in Batabano, Cuba.

Associated Press

mangrove forests. Cuba accounts for about 69 percent of the region's current mangroves, the New York-based Environmental Defense Fund says. Mangroves act as both a barrier to the sea and a saltwater filter, making them important for coastal health. Even in Cuba, experts say the situation is critical.

"The situation is bad. More than 30 percent of the

mangroves are in a critical state," government forest scientist Reynier Samon said on a recent tour of Surgidero de Batabano, an area where deforestation has been extreme. The rest, he said, are in a state of medium deterioration. Mangroves historically have been harvested heavily, for textile dyes, tannins used in the pharmaceutical industry, lumber for furniture and charcoal that rural Cubans rely on to fire their kitchens.

But healthy mangrove stands are important to alleviating one of the island's biggest headaches: Rising seas stand to wipe 122 towns off the map and penetrate up to 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) inland in low-lying areas by 2100, posing a serious threat to coastal communities and

agriculture, according to a government study last year.

Efrain Arrazcaeta, who runs a local environmental nonprofit, has witnessed the phenomenon with growing alarm. His group estimates a 2-meter (6.6-foot) maritime advance each year, using the submerged tank as a reference point.

"If the mangroves are restored, the mitigation of these effects will be notable," Arrazcaeta said.

No details of the mangrove plan have been

residents to be caretakers of the tangled, mosquito-infested thickets. The campaign shows them how their own homes and farms are at stake and urges them to protect freshwater streams vital for maintaining the right saline levels.

"The perception of the importance of this ecosystem for these communities is low. They see it as something to exploit," said Samon, the government scientist.

Extensive reforestation isn't easy. There's no way of mechanizing the process, which means brigades of workers will have to wade into the swampy terrain and plant each mangrove by hand.

Even deciding what to plant where requires careful study. Red mangroves thrive next to the sea, black mangroves a few meters (yards) inland, "yana" mangroves beyond that. And if you plant any variety in a place that's too salty or not salty enough, it will die. Financing for the plan comes from various ministries as well as a U.N. program on climate change adaptation. Officials declined to give budget figures, but said it's in the millions of dollars.



In this July 2, 2014, photo, government forest scientist Reynier Samon, shows mangrove charcoal residues in Batabano, Cuba.

Associated Press

made public. It will apparently include sustainable exploitation measures with some logging for the pharmaceutical industry under study, though the moratorium will remain more or less in place.

Officials are also waging a public awareness campaign to educate coastal

Samon said that in the past year some 36,000 hectares (89,000 acres) of mangroves have been successfully replanted nationwide. The measure complements other programs to relocate coastal buildings, protect sand dunes and regulate how close hotels can be to the sea. □



# Scientists make love, war weapons in 'Manhattan'

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Writer-producer Sam Shaw was grappling with how to craft a TV drama about the war on terror and the price it exacts from those who keep its secrets.

He found the answer by looking back to the early 1940s, when U.S. scientists and others working in isolation created the first atomic bombs without the knowledge of Congress, the vice president or the American public.

The result is "Manhattan," debuting Sunday (9 p.m. EDT) on cable channel WGN America. The drama is set in a makeshift, desolate Southwestern desert community, one of several that sprang up as part of the Manhattan Project aiming to beat Nazi Germany to the bomb.

"I wound up shelving the modern idea, in part because it's really difficult to write about history in the making with any kind of objectivity and moral clarity," Shaw said.

But his research showed him that the birth of the atomic bomb was "the birth of a huge number of issues and problems ... we're still trying to parse 70 years later."

Among the questions "Manhattan" raises: to what extent do we trust our leaders, and how much freedom and privacy are we willing to surrender to protect the nation and its ideals, including those primary ones?

Thomas Schlamme ("The West Wing") is an executive producer and directed the pilot. The cast includes John Benjamin Hickey ("Transformers," "The Good Wife"), Rachel Brosnahan ("House of Cards"), Ashley Zukerman ("Terra Nova," "Rush") and Olivia Williams ("Rushmore").

The World War II-era drama is the second original series for WGN America, part of its initiative to expand beyond Chicago sports and broadcast network reruns. It follows last spring's debut of "Salem," set in the 17th-century witch-obsessed village.

"Manhattan" fulfills WGN America's goal of entertaining viewers while taking them to "a time and place, with a palpable sense of what it was like to live in that moment," said Matt Cherniss, president and general manager.

The scientists who were gathered by President



This photo released by WGN America shows, Rachel Brosnahan, center, as Abby Isaacs, in a scene from the TV series, "Manhattan."

Associated Press

Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration in Los Alamos, New Mexico, were the best and the brightest, Shaw said. They became part of a very young settlement, with the average age of Manhattan Project workers there about 25, he said. Families, the military and locals are part of the combustible mix in "Manhattan."

The real scientists were fervently dedicated to the cause, even if some later

came to regret the deadly force they helped unleash, Shaw said.

"Almost everyone there was completely convinced that if they didn't get there first, (German) atomic bombs would rain down on the cities of Europe and America, as well," he said. Shaw came to "Manhattan" from Showtime's very different "Masters of Sex," on which he was a writer until he got the greenlight for his own series.

"I don't know how I traded sex and nudity for nuclear apocalypse," he said, jokingly. But he noted that life isn't entirely staid for the characters of "Manhattan," despite the dark mushroom cloud in their future.

"All those physicists had a lot of steam to blow off, so there was a fair amount of misbehavior. ... It's part of the human dimension of what it was like to live in this place," he said.

## Mike Tyson eyes Jamie Foxx in movie about ex-champ

**TORONTO (AP)** — Mike Tyson says he's met with Oscar-winning actor Jamie Foxx about collaborating on a possible biopic on his life.

"Me and Jamie Foxx have been talking and he's willing to take that role and portray me as Mike Tyson, doing my life story," the former heavyweight boxing champion said Friday during a conference call to promote an upcoming Toronto date for his one-man show, "Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth." "I think he's splendid because he's really up to par. I think he would do a magnificent job."

Further brainstorming of the project will "happen very shortly," he added.

"I saw him the other night and we discussed it," Tyson

said. "He doesn't have the physicality but he will. He's able to ... get bulky, so he's capable of doing it in the future."

Tyson will bring his solo production to Toronto's Air

Canada Centre on Sept. 10. Tickets go on sale July 31.

In the 90-minute show, he gives an unvarnished account of the highs and lows of his life — from his trou-

bled upbringing in Brooklyn and famed boxing career, to his time in prison and addiction issues.

Oscar-nominated filmmaker Spike Lee directed the stage show, which has already run on Broadway and across the United States. He also turned it into an HBO special that aired last November.

Tyson's wife, Kiki, wrote the script that includes room for ad-libbing.

"I don't do shows for any kind of therapy," said Tyson. "I do it because I enjoy doing it, and I do it because it's art. It's changed me a great deal because I can't walk 10 minutes without anybody asking me when the next show is going to appear."

Now 48 and retired from the ring, Tyson insisted he's

not the same intimidating guy he was when he was the youngest heavyweight boxing champion of the world: "Not even a little bit. That guy doesn't even exist no more."

Indeed, the Tyson of today is sober and seemingly mellow, with self-deprecating bits in the "Hangover" movies and a new role as boxing promoter with Iron Mike Productions. Besides his stage show, he's also opened up about his life in the 2008 documentary "Tyson" and in an autobiography published last November.

"Right now, I'm just living life day by day — black, broke and ugly," laughed Tyson, who declared bankruptcy in 2003 and has a tattoo on his face. "I'm just trying to survive, you know?"



Mike Tyson attends the "Mike Tyson Mysteries" panel on Day 2 of Comic-Con International on Friday, July 25, 2014, in San Diego.

Associated Press





In this April 11, 2008, file photo, U.S. writer Siri Hustvedt answers questions during a reading in Zurich, Switzerland.

Associated Press

**JILL LAWLESS**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — The Americans have arrived in force for Britain's Booker literary prize. Five U.S.-based writers are on the 13-book longlist for the prestigious fiction award, announced Wednesday.

This is the first year writers of all nationalities have been eligible for the Booker, previously open only to authors from Britain, Ireland and the Commonwealth of former British colonies.

The roster includes Americans Joshua Ferris, Karen Joy Fowler, Siri Hus-

## Americans aplenty as UK's Booker Prize goes global

tvedt and Richard Powers, as well as Irish-born, U.S.-based writer Joseph O'Neill.

Also on the list are Britain's Howard Jacobson, Neel Mukherjee, Paul Kingsnorth, David Mitchell, David Nicholls and Ali Smith, Ireland's Niall Williams and Australia's Richard Flanagan.

Some British writers have expressed fears that the change in eligibility may lead to U.S. dominance of the 45-year-old award, officially named the Man Booker Prize after its sponsor, financial services firm Man Group PLC.

This year Britons are still in the majority, and there is only one writer — Flanagan — from a Common-

wealth country other than Britain. Only three of the nominated authors are women.

"After all the fears about a U.S.-dominated list, the number of British writers comes as a surprise," said Jonathan Ruppin, a spokesman for bookstore chain Foyles. "Although the absence of any authors from Africa or Asia is perhaps the more striking aspect of the spread of nationalities."

Philosopher A.C. Grayling, who chairs the judging panel, said that in a "vintage year" for fiction, the judges were looking only for quality.

"It didn't matter to us if they were written by men or women, by Americans

or Australians or Brits," Grayling said.

"Fiction in English, no matter who written by, no matter where published, is now part of kind of a global scene. Fiction is fiction, and good fiction will always stand comparison with good fiction."

Bookmaker William Hill made O'Neill the early favorite to win with "The Dog," the story of a disillusioned lawyer, followed by Mitchell for decades-spanning saga "The Bone Clocks," which will be published in the fall.

A six-book shortlist for the 50,000-pound (\$85,000) prize will be announced Sept. 9, and the winner unveiled at a ceremony in London on Oct. 14. □

## 'Up the Down Staircase' writer Kaufman dies at 103

**HILLEL ITALIE**  
**AP National Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Bel Kaufman, the witty and spirited fiction writer, educator and storyteller whose million-selling "Up the Down Staircase" captured the insanity and the humor, the pathos and the poetry of the American high school, died Friday at age 103.

Kaufman, the Berlin-born granddaughter of Yiddish writer Sholem Aleichem and a vital link to Yiddish culture, died at her Manhattan home after a brief illness, said her daughter, Thea Goldstine.

Kaufman was a middle-age teacher and single mother in the mid-1960s when her autobiographical novel was welcomed as a kind of civilian companion to Joseph Heller's "Catch-22," a send-up of the most maddening bureaucracy. Like "Catch-22," even the title of Kaufman's book became a tell-all label, shorthand for all the senseless rules students and educators could never quite follow.

"Up the Down Staircase," a scrapbook of letters, notes and memos, follows a few months in the life of the idealistic young Sylvia Barrett, the new teacher at Calvin Coolidge High School. She



This May 2012 photo provided by Open Road Media shows Bel Kaufman at home in New York.

Associated Press

is a kind soul staggering under a blizzard of administrative nonsense and student impudence. When she's not being reprimanded for her kids' failure to memorize the school's alma mater song, she faces a crowded but endearing class of misfits and other characters, from rebel Joe Ferone to the brown-nosing Harry A. Kagan.

When the book was released in 1965, The New York Times' Beverly Grunwald praised Kaufman's "refreshing way of stating the facts, of breaking down statistics into recognizable teenagers, of making you smile, be contrite and infuriated all at once."

Kaufman became a heroine for teachers and students worldwide. "Up the Down Staircase" has sold

more than 6 million copies and has been translated into 16 languages. It was made into a film of the same name, starring Sandy Dennis, and it helped start a trend of candid education books. Kaufman was delighted to learn that teachers in one of her former schools were warned not to let her see any memos, for fear they would end up in a book.

Decades later, another New York teacher-turned-celebrity, Frank McCourt, would praise "Up the Down Staircase" as one of the few honest looks at the public school system.

"She got all the craziness of the paperwork and the administrators and supervisors," McCourt, author of the memoirs "Angela's Ashes" and "Teacher Man,"

said in 2005.

She was born Bella Kaufman in Berlin and raised in Odesa, her first language Russian. Her family fled in 1923 to escape the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, and she arrived in the U.S., at age 11, speaking no English. She was forced to begin her American schooling in the first grade, her classmates years younger. The kindness of her teacher inspired her to become an educator, too.

Language was a temporary handicap. She caught up quickly, graduated magna cum laude from Hunter College in 1934 and received a master's degree in English from Columbia University two years later. Around the same time, she married Sidney Goldstine, with whom she had two children.

Literature was in her blood, not just from her grandfather, but from her mother, Lyalya Kaufman, a popular and prolific writer.

After leaving Columbia, Bel Kaufman wrote short fiction, including "La Tigresse," published in Esquire with a small but lasting revision: Kaufman shortened her first name to Bel because the magazine only accepted work by men.

During the 1950s and into

the '60s, she taught in high schools and community colleges, never suspecting the good fortune of the second half of her life. The turn began in 1962 when her brief essay "From a Teacher's Wastebasket" was published in the Saturday Review of Literature. She received \$200 and was soon contacted by an editor at Prentice Hall, Gladys Justin Carr, who told her that her article might make a nice start for a novel. Kaufman resisted. Carr offered an advance. Kaufman spent it.

"So I had to write the book," she recalled.

The novel took nine months and was finished during the "lowest point" of her life. She had left her husband, her kids were grown and her mother was ailing. She was alone and lonely in a two-room apartment and some pages had to be re-typed, she said, because of the teardrops on the manuscript.

After "Staircase," she wrote a second novel, "Love, Etc.," and was a popular lecturer and speaker, talking about schools, the arts and her famous grandfather, including in the 2011 documentary "Sholem Aleichem: Laughing in the Darkness." □



# Left Coast Rising



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2014 New York Times

The states, Justice Louis Brandeis famously pointed out, are the laboratories of democracy. And it's still true. For example, one reason we knew or should have known that Obamacare was workable was the post-2006 success of Romneycare in Massachusetts. More recently, Kansas went all-in on supply-side economics, slashing taxes on the affluent in the belief that this would spark a huge boom; the boom didn't happen, but the budget deficit exploded, offering an object lesson to those willing to learn from experience.

And there's an even bigger if less drastic experiment underway in the opposite direction. California has long suffered from political paralysis, with budget rules that allowed an increasingly extreme Republican minority to hamstring a Democratic majority; when the state's housing bubble burst, it plunged into fiscal crisis. In 2012, however, Democratic dominance finally became strong enough to overcome the paralysis, and Gov. Jerry Brown was able to push through a modestly liberal agenda of higher taxes, spending increases and a rise in the minimum wage. California also moved enthusiastically to implement Obamacare.

I guess we're not in Kansas anymore. (Sorry, I couldn't help myself.)

Needless to say, conservatives predicted doom. A representative reaction: Daniel J. Mitchell of the Cato Institute declared that by voting for Proposition 30, which authorized those tax increases, "the looters and moochers of the Golden State" (yes, they really do think they're living in an Ayn Rand novel) were committing "economic suicide." Meanwhile, Avik Roy of the Manhattan Institute and Forbes claimed that California residents were about to face a "rate shock" that would more than double health insurance premiums.

What has actually happened? There is, I'm sorry to say, no sign of the promised catastrophe.

If tax increases are causing a major flight of jobs from California, you can't see it in the job numbers. Employment is up 3.6 percent in the past 18 months, compared with a national average of 2.8 percent; at this point, California's share of national employment, which was hit hard by the bursting of the state's enormous housing bubble, is back to

pre-recession levels.

On health care, some people - basically healthy young men who were getting inexpensive insurance on the individual market and were too affluent to receive subsidies - did face premium increases, which we always knew would happen. Overall, however, the costs of health reform came in below expectations, while enrollment came in well above - more than triple initial predictions in the San Francisco area. A recent survey by the Commonwealth Fund suggests that California has already cut the percentage of its residents without health insurance in half. What's more, all indications are that further progress is in the pipeline, with more insurance companies entering the marketplace for next year.

And, yes, the budget is back in surplus.

Has there been any soul-searching among the prophets of California doom, asking why they were so wrong?

Not that I'm aware of. Instead, I've been seeing many attempts to devalue the good news from California by pointing out that the state's job growth still lags that of Texas, which is true, and claiming that this difference is driven by differential tax rates, which isn't.

For the big difference between the two states, aside from the size of the oil and gas sector, isn't tax rates. It's housing prices. Despite the bursting of the bubble, home values in California are still double the national average, while in Texas they're 30 percent below that average. So a lot more people are moving to Texas even though wages and productivity are lower than they are in California.

And while some of this difference in housing prices reflects geography and population density - Houston is still spreading out, while Los Angeles, hemmed in by mountains, has reached its natural limits - it also reflects California's highly restrictive land-use policies, mostly imposed by local governments rather than the state. As Harvard's Edward Glaeser has pointed out, there is some truth to the claim that states like Texas are growing fast thanks to their anti-regulation attitude, "but the usual argument focuses on the wrong regulations." And taxes aren't important at all.

So what do we learn from the California comeback? Mainly, that you should take anti-government propaganda with large helpings of salt. Tax increases aren't economic suicide; sometimes they're a useful way to pay for things we need. Government programs, like Obamacare, can work if the people running them want them to work, and if they aren't sabotaged from the right. In other words, California's success is a demonstration that the extremist ideology still dominating much of American politics is nonsense. □



# French Food Goes Down



MARK BITTMAN  
© 2014 New York Times

Before my first visit to France, around 45 years ago, I was told that you couldn't find bad food there if you tried. I was of limited experience, so even a hot dog jammed into a baguette bore witness to that "fact."

Nevertheless, a few visits later, it seemed justifiable to buy into the program: France had countless regions, each producing superior products that were handled well and (with notable exceptions) served at reasonable prices. I wish we could go back - we'd need a time machine, of course - and verify that experience.

For that bubble burst long ago. My first indication was a braised chicken dish served at a bistro near Lyon. Whether it was cooked on the premises or in a faraway factory was impossible to know, but it had certainly been frozen since its creation and reheated at least once, most recently in a microwave. That depressing experience was the first of many, and I never again repeated the platitude about good food in France. Today, when I write about Parisian restaurants I have to eat in three to recommend one, and that's with expert guidance.

Which only means that restaurants in the home of la grande cuisine have become much like they are elsewhere. If you want a meal out featuring great ingredients prepared fresh and with skill

you can find one, but you have to be very diligent, very lucky or willing to spend big; the vast majority of restaurants disappoint.

The people of France appear to have lost faith and even interest. They spend most of their restaurant dollars at chains, and they no longer trust that restaurants make a majority of their dishes themselves.

But some members of the French government and restaurant industry are not giving up easily. They're trying to preserve what was once a daily fixture in the lives of a nation of people who appreciated well-prepared food, as well as a tourist attraction that appears in some circles to have been overtaken as a culinary tourism destination by Italy (with some justification), Spain and even tiny Denmark.

Sadly, they've devised just about the dumbest fix imaginable, the "fait maison" ("homemade") logo, which looks like a roof over a skillet and is to be placed next to dishes that are made in-house. Of course the devil is in the details, and the law has several exemptions - including frozen food. Thus, farm-raised, antibiotic-laced, slave-labor-produced and frozen-and-thawed shrimp from Thailand can be legitimately logo-ized, as long as they're cooked in-house, as can frozen vegetables from anywhere in the world - again, as long as they're cooked in the restaurant that's serving them.

I've nothing against frozen vegetables. (Oh, french fries are exempt from the exemption; you can't put the logo next to potatoes unless you've peeled them yourself.) I've nothing against charcuterie that isn't made by the chef serving it. I'm all for real cooking on the premises, too. But the question is not "where is it made?" so much as "how?" and "with what?"

And I'm all for regulations that might work, but this one won't. A sly restaurateur will be able to ap-

ply the fait maison logo to almost everything on the menu. In fact, if my reading of the law is correct, even a chain like Pret a Manger - which produces fresh sandwiches on the premises - could apply the logo to most if not all items on its menu. (Bread is exempt.) And the ruling will not help consumers distinguish between a vacuum-packed salad made thousands of miles away (vacuum-packed foods are exempt) and one made with tomatoes grown 20 feet outside the kitchen door. Both get the logo.

Fancy, famous, embarrassingly expensive three-star French restaurants will, of course, legally apply the logo to just about everything. But the one-time national treasure, mom-and-pop operations that relied on nearby sources and cooking in a style that was both regional and personal, has become rare. And this law won't change that.

America doesn't have that kind of tradition, although the cooking of our diners and other greasy spoons was once honest and often enjoyable. But they're gone, too, because the problems are fundamental. By relying increasingly over the years on fast and pre-prepared food in most arenas of our lives, we - including, at this point, the celebrated French - have allowed un-fresh food to take over. There are exceptions, of course - part of my work is looking for them - but that's exactly what they are.

The fait maison logo does nothing to address the fact that chains and pre-prepared food now dominate the restaurant industry globally. And whether it's a chain, school, hospital, workplace, prison or restaurant, there's only occasionally reason to expect fresh ingredients prepared on the premises.

In fact, if that's the kind of food you want to rely on, you'd better get rich or start cooking at home. Or, of course, hop in your time machine. □



# Seeing a Yacht as a Job Engine, Not a Self-Indulgence

**PAUL SULLIVAN**

© 2014 New York Times

Dennis M. Jones was struck by an intriguing coincidence when he took delivery of his custom-built 164-foot superyacht: The \$34 million he paid for it was equal to the \$34 million he had donated to charity since 2000. The contributions helped the neediest around St. Louis get an education, get healthy or get a fresh start.

But the money spent on the yacht helped save the shipbuilder and the jobs of the hundreds of people it employed.

Could the purchase of a superyacht be more than an act of self-indulgence? Could it provide something as significant, Jones wondered, as the financial aid he has given to children, homeless people, drug addicts and groups that promote education and entrepreneurship?

Jones, who made his fortune when he sold Jones Pharma, a niche drug company, to King Pharmaceuticals for \$3.4 billion in 2000, is under no illusions that a superyacht is an essential item, even for someone in the 0.1 percent.

"It's a very expensive enterprise," he said. "It's the ultimate for people who want the ultimate."

Yet the yacht he purchased helped save Christensen Yachts, a 30-year-old U.S. yacht builder, whose workforce shrank to 75, from 500, after the financial collapse. Beyond improving the leisure time of one very successful man, the yacht Jones ordered added jobs for people being paid craftsmen wages. "The company is up and running better because of us," Jones said. Today, Christensen has a 3-year waiting period for one of its yachts. When I heard about Jones' story, and his willingness to tell it, I was intrigued. Was he just a wealthy man trying to justify spending tens of millions of dollars on a new yacht? Or was he subtly challenging the billionaires who make a show of signing the Warren Buffett-

Bill Gates pledge to give away most of their money to philanthropies during their lifetimes - those who seem almost embarrassed by the lifestyles funded by their enormous fortunes? Wealth is not something to be embarrassed by, Jones

have the same level of service."

Despite this luxury lifestyle, the charities he supports are not the most glamorous ones. He gives to St. Patrick Center, which provides help for homeless people in St. Louis, and

in need.

Which is where the 164-foot yacht comes in. After 15 years with a 151-foot Delta, which had room for 12 guests and 10 crew members, the Joneses wanted to have their own superyacht built from scratch.

money providing jobs and potentially saving a U.S. company.

Joe F. Foggia, chief executive of Christensen Yachts, does not dispute Jones' recollection. His yacht order was a catalyst for others.



**An undated handout photo of the yacht of Dennis Jones, who was intrigued when he took delivery of the yacht by the coincidence that the \$34 million he paid for it was the same amount he has donated to charity since 2000.**

(Thomas Caradonna via The New York Times)

contends; in his view, people should be encouraged to seek it.

Jones is unabashed about his lifestyle. It is one that could fairly be called lavish. He and his wife, Judy, live in a 31,000-square-foot mansion outside St. Louis. (According to property records, they pay more in property taxes than all but one person in St. Louis.) When they want to cruise on their new yacht, D'Natalin IV, which will spend winters in the Caribbean and summers in Europe, they fly to it, and anywhere else they want to go, on a private plane. "I retired at 62 after hitting an unbelievable home run, and now we have the great home, the great yacht and the method of getting there," Jones, 75, said. "Wherever we go, we

Connections to Success, which helps low-income people find jobs and become self-sufficient. Another favorite organization is Junior Achievement because it teaches children about free enterprise.

On Thursday he donated \$500,000 to Ranken Technical College to pay for a program that teaches ex-convicts in St. Louis a trade and helps get them a job. "The one theme throughout is education," Jones said of his charitable giving. "I only have a high school degree. It didn't matter back then, but we have a different society today."

Jones said he wanted to encourage other wealthy people to think about how their opulent lifestyles could provide jobs just as their charity helps people

They chose Christensen Yachts, in Vancouver, Washington, because of its reputation for quality and its yacht's ability to handle a unique hull design.

What Jones didn't realize in early 2013 was how much Christensen Yachts was struggling from the recession.

"There were only two other yachts plus ours being built," he said. "As I got to know them better, I learned all three of them had some financial issues with money to finish them. I came in with money transferred from my brokerage account and this got them out of debt and got the project moving again."

Jones, who had employed 650 people at Jones Pharma and gave stock options to employees at all levels, liked the idea of his

"We had finished some boats, but the last one we delivered was in the latter part of 2010," he said.

His business was so slow in 2013 that the company had reorganized itself and branched out into other industries like manufacturing wind turbines and making smaller yachts that other companies would sell under their brand.

"Before 2008, no one took any interest in what we were doing," he said of the residents of the city, which is just across the Columbia River from Portland, Oregon. "When we started laying people off, we were viewed as the rich man's toy box."

That changed when the economic impact of hundreds of jobless workers was felt in the businesses around the shipyard. □